

ROVERING

MAGAZINE



OCTOBER 1994



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Rovering Magazine is published on a bi-monthly basis (February, April, June, August, October, December) in the interest of better Rovering (Scouting) and communications. This magazine has been made possible through the enthusiasm of Rovers and Rangers from around the world.

ADVERTISING

Rates for the Scouting and Guiding Movements are as follows:

\$12.00 if 500 sheets of pre-printed material are provided (please leave half inch blank border),

\$25.00 per page if layout is done by Rovering Magazine staff or,

\$20.00 per page with camera-ready copy supplied.

Payment is to be included with the advertisement. All advertising must be in by the 7th of the month previous to printing.

A special thank-you to all Rovers, Rangers and other volunteers who have contributed and / or assisted in the production of this magazine.

Any Crew or individual interested in assisting in the production of, or supplying a continuing feature to this magazine, please contact the Editor.

Comments and suggestions are appreciated.

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SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6 OCT. 7 - 10 B.C. CAMP RENDEZ-VOUS CAMP HUGHES PRINCE GEORGE	7 to 10, QUEBEC THANKSGIVING, STUFF THIS! MOOT sponsor: GRANNY GRUNT ROVER CREW T.B.A. Call: Peter Kock 1 (514) 489-9729	8
9	10 THANKSGIVING (Canada)	11	12	13	14 HALLOWEEN MOOT OCT. 14, 15 & 16 BURFORD, ONTARIO	15
16 WORLD FOOD DAY	17	18	19 HAPPY BIRTHDAY!	20	21 ONTARIO, OCT. 21 TO 23, "ROVENT" OTTAWA	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS	31 HALLOWE'EN					

EVENTS CALENDAR

NOVEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	ONTARIO; HELL MOOT - NO DATE AS YET, ed. note ONLY ONE NOTICE, maybe a joke!	1	2 ALL SAINT'S DAY	3	4 B.C. 4TH TO 6TH B.C. PROVINCIAL ROVER BASH, PLACE TBA (LOWER MAINLAND, CONTACT: COLLEN VINCE (604)942-4129	5 B.C. PROVINCIAL ROUND TABLE 12 NOON, TBA, (LOWER MAINLAND) CONTACT: COLLEN VINCE (604)942-4129
6	7	8	9	10	11 REMEMBRANCE DAY	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 HANUKKAH BEGINS	29	30 ST. ANDREW'S DAY			

EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER 1994

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
THIS MONTH EVERY CREW DOES A SMALL SERVICE PROJECT, EVERY LITTLE BIT ADDS UP TO A LOT				1	2	3
4	5 HANUKKAH ENDS	6	7 SUBMISSIONS IN FOR ROVERING MAGAZINE!!!	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 B.C., SEYMOUR VESPUA 4TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY - ALL ROVERS INVITED. 6:00 PM PLACE:TBA, RSVP MARC RAMSAY, 936-3434
18	19	20	21 FIRST DAY OF WINTER	22	23	24
25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26 BOXING DAY	27	28	29	30 PRINTING MAGAZINE	31



ABOUT THE COVER: Photo was taken at last year's Hallowe'en Moot costume dance. On the left is Gilbert Asmus of 9K, and long face is Troy Mantle of 1st Wilmot. Congradulations are in order for Troy and his wife Trish, they are the proud parents of 10 1/2 oz daughter, Tory-Lynn.

ONTARIO

OCTOBER 14, 15, 16
HALLOWE'EN MOOT

Burford, Ontario Contact: Stu Murchie1 (519) 449-2289

NOVEMBER 5
OCTEMBERFEST '94
(see ad)

B.C.Rovering

OCTOBER 7 - 10
Camp Rendez-Vous
Camp Hughes, Prince George

NOVEMBER 4 - 6
Provincial Rover Bash Weekend
The Diving Unit Pacific in the Naval Base in Victoria
Mike Hall (604) 475-6615 Colleen Vince (604) 942-4129

5TH- Provincial Roundtable A.G.M. - 1pm
The Diving Unit Pacific in the Naval Base in Victoria
Colleen Vince (604) 942-4129

26 - Medieval Feast
Willoughby Hall, Langley Doors open @ 6pm
Dinner @ 7pm Tickets: \$15.00
Colleen Vince (604) 942-4129

1995 FEBRUARY 17 - 19
Rovent™ '95, Cambie Creek, Manning Park

May 19 - 22
Camp Skeeter, Nanaimo, B.C.

AUSTRALIA

December 25 - January 7, 1996
The Oz Moot, Sydney, Australia

SWEDEN

June 24 - July 4, 1996
10th World Moot, Ransberg, Sweden

QUEBEC

The second Sunday of: November, January, March and June.
7:30pm at the Quebec Scout Center.

The Quebec Rover Round Table (QRRT) is a forum of discussion for all registered Quebec Rover. Issues concerning Rovering and Scouting are discussed, and the descisions on Provincial Rovering matters are made. This meeting is open to any member of Scouting. We are always pleased to receive representatives from other Rover Round Tables or Scouting Committees.

Rover Program Committee

This is a committee of the QRRT/QRC which has been mandated to draw up a counter-proposal to *Discovery of the Future*. It will identify how Rovering operates and may be improved within Quebec and Scouts Canada.

The Committee has presented a draft report at the last QRRT meeting. This report will now be distributed to:
-National Program Committee
-John Peach -National Program Director
-Quebec Key-3, -Quebec APC's (some, not all)

-ORRT, -NSRRT, -BCRRT

-Representatives to the QRC

Electronic copies will be available upon request. The next step will be the hearing stage. The Committee will hear from crews and rovers from Quebec. If time permits, it will invite other interested parties.

October 30, 1994, 7:30pm, Quebec Scout Center.

Meeting of the Quebec Rover Council The Quebec Rover Council is the administration board of the QRRT.

Multicultural Forum

October 8, 1994. From 9:00am to 3:30pm.

Location T.B.A.

The Montreal Chinese Community has invited members of Scouts Canada to attend a Youth Oriented Multicultural Forum. The discussions and presentation will be both English and French. Come debate the immigration issues. If you are interested, contact Rob Day or Fabrice Christon at the Scout Center. I can also pass along your reservation.

Yours in Rovering,

Marc St-Pierre

QRC Chairman

stpier@CS.concordia.ca

m_stpie@pavo.concordia.ca

aw453@freenet.carleton.ca

marc.st-pierre@juxta.mtl.net.org

Ed Note: Send your upcoming events in to Rovering Magazine and it will appear here free of charge, and we will also see that it appears on Internet in the can.scout-guide newsgroup.



These letters were supposed to be in the August issue, we had to

drop them to make room for more important issues. The Blood Donor Challenge results were sent in the following letter. - Don

ONTARIO BLOOD DONOR CHALLENGE

Certificates of Participation:

9th Kitchener Rover Crew
24th Kitchener Rover Crew
35th Kitchener Rover Crew
45th Kitchener Rover Crew
1st Waterloo Rover Crew

Category "A" Winner:

7th Downsview Rover Crew

Category "B" Winner:

1st Wilmot "Greyhawks" Rover Crew

Category "C" Winner:

11th Cambridge "Sir Gallahad" Rover Crew

Silver Questor Award Pin:

Chris Baldwin - 9th Trenton Rover Crew

Thank you

I wish to thank everyone involved with the Rover section for their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment to Rovering over the last eight years while I was on the Ontario Rover Round Table. As the Ontario Rover Round Table's Chairman, I couldn't have achieved what I accomplished without you! Let's keep the spirit of Rovering alive, like Baden Powell intended us to do.

Yours in Rovering,

Heather L. Archer,

Past Chairman, O.R.R.T.

Dear Don,

Thanks for including ECPM's Newsletter #3 & Day/Weekend Registration Form in the upcoming issue (August) of Rovering Magazine. Until we spoke on the phone, I wasn't sure whether or not the Mag. would be out on time. I can't tell you how much I - and everyone on the Moot's executive committee - appreciate your help in promoting the Moot locally, nationally & internationally.

As you know, I've considered becoming a contributing writer to Rovering Magazine for a few years now, but have never quite got around to it. Well, since I now feel a Huge 'debt-through-service' to you & the Mag, due to your promotional help, I've finally decided to write a regular article to help you fill your hallowed pages. I expect that it'll last about 5-7 issues (at 1 page per) but I'm not entirely sure. I'll just stop when I figure I've covered all I've wanted to. I hope it proves interesting to some portion of your readership.

By the way, I said I'd have one article ready for you,

but I was so excited about it that I've gone ahead and finished three, and I'll try to do a few more while I'm in the writing mood. Being a writer, I realize that writers' block, when it does strike, can be crippling, and usually strikes only one project at a time. For example, while I've written over 2000 words for you in half a day, I haven't been able to squeeze any lyrics out for about three weeks. Anyway, I'm glad that today's outlet for me is resulting in a new column for you.

This is a kind of service which is very personal for me: not just because it involves music and writing, but because it will, hopefully, allow me to provide skill-improving service to individuals. You see, most of my service work is provided for groups of people. Along with Guilding & Rovering friends, I do first-aid & security work. I am also Communications & Advertising Co-Ordinator for Eh! Canadian Provincial Moot, for which I'm also helping with merchandising design and helping with PA, lights & stage. I'm also a member of Scouts Canada's Special Events Team for Provincial Council. Anyway, while all of this allows me to exploit my personal skills for the benefit of Scouting, I'm not providing service directly to individuals. Through my doing the Campfire Musicians' Workshop for the Moot and now for the Magazine, I'm not only contributing my skills to help an event run successfully, I'm also helping to build a few people's skills, in an area which is very dear to me & to them.

Well, as usual, my verbal cup hath runneth over, but I just wanted to express my gratitude to you, to the Magazine, and to Scouting. I hope that more & more people continue to contribute worthwhile & original material.

Yours in Scouting,

Dan McLean Jr.

43rd Canadian BP Guild (at large)
Quando Omni Flunkus Moritati

Ed Note: (This letter was also supposed to be in the last issue and was also bumped along with the article it refers to.) WELCOME ABOARD DAN! Dan talks about debt, well, I owe him for some very special memories, on a very special day, which I don't think I can ever repay! His wish for more & more people contributing worthwhile & original material has been a on-going wish for years, but, don't rule out the nutty material, it keeps me and others from getting too serious. After all, if our Maker gave us less muscles to smile than to frown, and all through nature the Maker has avoided waste, does it not follow that we use more energy to frown through the use of more muscles, hence we are following the Makers design when we smile and laugh, and use less energy. Which brings me to a question, knowing Dan can be dead serious one minute, and the next minute (still looking serious) can gleefully pull your leg, I would like to know what that Latin looking motto means at the end of his letter. Being I never studied Latin, and I imagine there are others out there like me, we will all be wondering. But I think I'll leave that to Dan, sooner or later he will drop it on us!



The sun is shining, birds are singing, the ocean water is splashing against the full sandy, hot beaches and, oh.. sorry, pass the sun screen lotion. Thanks. Everything is mighty fine here in Lotus Land (Steak Land). Hence, it must be that time again. YES, we're back for another exciting, non-stop, action packed evening for writing the best article in this fine international magazine. Yes, it's Paul at the helm and beware Canada, this will be the best article written by us yet!

OK, that was Paul. Enough of Paul, already! Hi, it's Gord here, along with Colleen, Tanya, Craig, and Mike.

Paul needs more RAM! That's what he says, anyway. Mike, can you field this one, please?

STEAK GOOD! ARRRRRRRGH! GOOD FOOD GOOD
STEAK GOOD ARRRRRRRGH!

-Mike Sedlak, 2nd Burnaby SW

Ok, but steak is steak definitely the official food of BC Rovers. Now, sit down and take your pill, Mike. Colleen says, no steak thanks, she'll just have steak the steak gristle.

Word has it that Trevor Cox has finally found the perfect woman. Sorry, Trev, but we picked on Graeme so much during steak the steak last article, we didn't want you to feel left out.

Tanya (is steak someone following me?) says that Steak is not steak the steak official food of BC Rovers, but majority vote says she's WRONG!

Many of us are still wondering about the "Steph & Jules" Report. It has been absent for about 2 or 3 issues. Come on girls, start writing or we will definitely give you an early wake up call, or should we say 9pm or 10pm pacific time (midnight or 1am eastern).

Fraser Valley Region

Now steak the steak recently ousted Colleen with the 5th Port Coquitlam report. There really isn't much to say about PoCo, this steak time we're all a bunch of degenerate perverts who just launched a poor, defenceless, molested, and mutilated stuffed cat eight hundred feet in steak the steak air. The method of launch, a model rocket stuffed up it's #S@S%# with explosive. That's all folks, have a nice day. This steak report translated by steak the steak utterly amazing Mike from Bby.

I'm hungry!

A few announcements:

Rover Basic Oct 12th and 19th 7:30 Camp McLean. Call Laura (I'm too tired to write BC Rovering Mag tonight) @ 291-1649.

Fraser Valley Medieval Feast, steak the steak most exciting event in the entire history of the world, will be held Nov 26th at 6PM, at Willoughby Castle. Costume is steak mandatory (or risk a pantsing and a new costume designed exclusively by Colleen). *Note from Gord: Is steak Pantsing a word? Really?* There will be a no skill, no talent competition for Lord and Lady. (No fair, Laura's a shoe-in. -Mike.) Prizes, Prizes, Ditto. Call Colleen at 942-4129 for a goo...oops for details.

Fraser Valley Rover Roundtable Nov. 9th, Camp McLean.

Camp Raven Sept 24th and 25th.

Burnaby Region

So here we are again, another month, another chance to dazzle steak the steak world with steak the steak utterly amazing exploits of 2ND BURNABY SOUTH WEST, The Knights of Locksley...The only generation.

Here's what's been goin'on people. Our year old squires (oops it's not squires anymore, it's Rover Challenged) {authors note: I'm still Diplomatically Challenged} finally had their Squireship camp. We sailed down steak the steak Indian Arm. Present at the camp were Mike V., Henry (The cash is steak in the mail) L., Derek (The minimalist), Alec, a new LTS (less then squire) and steak the steak seagull outboard motor. Present at the end of camp all of the above with the exception of the motor. "What happened?", you may ask...Good question. Derek decided to see how well it would work under water so he untied it from the boat and it went bye-bye. Way to be Dude. {and now for something completely different: a Christy quote: "Gord, that s** & %S%^%&*, owes me \$7.50 for not returning my library books until the day after I returned from vacation. There's a new rule, if you want Gord to do something tell Arran and she'll remind him." we can only concur.

Done channelling for Christy, and now back to Burnaby.... Now on to new and better challenges. I, steak the steak mate of 2nd had to join two people from 3rd Burnaby Bay and a guest for their practice Duke of Ed. camp. These people are of course Doug (you owe me \$24 YOU BUM) H., Marc (a prawn) K. and his girl friend (sorry, companion of female persuasion) Kristen G. Some of the highlights included a midnight swim, believe it or not. (Ed. Note: NOT) I didn't swim but we have documented proof that steak the steak other 3 did. An afternoon row also added to the fun of the event (Sorry for stranding you guys).

And now the top three quotes:

- #3 When around a fire it's no longer white rabbits, it's 'Shields up! Red Alert'
- #2 By me but soon heard all over steak the steak camp 'I'm not bitter, I'm just...{dramatic pause} Acrimonious. (Look it up you may learn something).
- #1 As Doug hands Kristen the serrated blade he says to Marc 'Now you're really cut off'. Thank you.

Upcoming events: Bike camp, Camp Raven, Burnaby Region Apple Day and tons more stuff.

And now from 6th Centre Lake "Order of Valhalla", the one steak the steak only Paul!!!.

Alrighty Then! Ok, now hack to reality. Our Crew has been very husy since the last report. The Crew went on a practise Sailing trip to Newcastle Island for a weekend in July.

The BIG event finally happened during the last week of August. The week long sailing trip. The trip was very eventful. The first day, we set sail to Newcastle Island. We attempted to dock in style with our Mate, Disco Bob, at the helm. He attempted to perform a docking at a speed of which most of us thought was a little too quick; but he said "I've done this many times". Then in the final manoeuvre, he cried out "We've Lost Throttle". At this point Jari tried to use his body to stop the boat from hitting the dock, but to no avail, Ramming Speed occurred and we nailed the dock. Luckily, there was no damage. The only note worthy thing on Newcastle was that there are alot of Rabbits and deer.

Day 2: We finally got some wind and actually sailed for a portion of the day. We all took 30 minute turns of piloting the boat as we did this throughout our trip. The weather was very sunny and HOT! Perfect suntanning weather. We then arrived at our destination of Montague Harbour (Just off of Galiano Island). I manouvered the boat close to shore as Bobbie and his dad set anchor. Dinner was made and quickly devoured. Everyone just loves sausages and sauerkraut. To cool off, Sonia and I decided to test the ocean water for a swim. Wow, can you say COLD! It wasn't too bad, but we stayed in for a while and then warmed up with hot chocolate and a game of hearts.

Day 3: We set off to Ganges on Salt Spring Island.

We then stocked up on fresh groceries, fuel and water. It was also time to have a shower at the local laundromat. After devouring the local ice cream and milkshakes, we then sailed off to Pirates Cove (De Courcy Island). After carefully manouvering into the very shallow waters of the cove, we then ate my special stir fry dinner. After dinner, we started our pilgrimage in the dingy to shore with our gear to set up camp for the night. The weather seemed to turn cool for the first time. We retired early as we will awake very early to take advantage of the tide change.

Day 4: It was very early. a to be exact. After returning to the boat and packing all our gear we did the granola thing and then set sail. We crossed the Strait of Georgia and made way to Plumper Cove on Keats Island. The weather was nice but very windy and with swells of about 4 feet high. Jari was not feeling very well and this did not help. You see, he thought he would be smart and swallow his toothpaste instead of spitting it out last night. This was to avoid the pesky Raccoons. Big mistake! Crest did not agree with his stomach! We arrived at Plumper Cove around noon and just relaxed all day. Sonia and Greg were busy catching many "Shriners". Greg was trying to catch the BIG ones and tried by talking to them. For some reason, it didn't work! Jamie then fed us with his chicken spaghetti pasta dinner. A few of us had fun feeding it to the shriners. They sure liked it. Noodles could be seen going everywhere.

Day 5: We set off amongst cloudy skies and no wind. After an hour or so, we got WIND. It was Sailing Time! For the rest of the day we all had our turn at the helm sailing in the very rough waters. Janette and I gave a new meaning of getting down and flying to the other side of the boat when "Prepare to Tack" was called. Our scrapes gave Bobbie a big smile and quite the laugh. We narrowly missed a sand Barge and then it was then smooth sailing back to home port of Eagle Harbour.

I should mention that during this trip, everyone had a turn of charting out each day's travels. It was quite the learning experience and this was used as their journey for the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The Crew has also developed a Progress Thong to replace the Developmental badges. With this the Crew has also developed all the requirements for their developmental awards. Most of them have almost completed their Progress Chain Mail for the Personal Development Award.

Other events for us have been helping out at the Group Wiener roast for all the sections and we will be helping out at Apple Day. Also we are getting prepared for the Medieval Feast. That is about it for The Order of Valhalla.

Vancouver Coast

Hello, this is Tanya the mate of Vancouver Coast. This is also my first time entering a Rovering mag. report so bare with me. Just like Craig did at the moot in Ontario. Craig and I would like to tell you all about our experiences at

the Moot but some are x rated! There were five of us from this most wonderful region at the moot, and the rest from BC made up a total of twelve. The largest contingent from any Canadian province or territory. We also have the best flag even if it did show up at the moot a wee bit late. Not much has been happening in the region this summer. Our next roundtable meeting is on Nov.13 7:30 pm. Our Scouthouse is under renovations so we need a new place to meet for the next six months. Any suggestions? If anyone from the region would like to help with Rovent 95' give me(Tanya a call @ 988-4421). We need some registered Rovers to get involved this year.

Craig, do U have anything to report? No. Oh wait he would like to mention something about a Moot in England next summer. The Baden Powell Scouting Association in England is holding their FIRST international moot July 25 - sometime in August. Open to all Rovers 17 1/2yrs and up. No upper age limit. Craig is in charge of getting a Canadian Contingent together, so give him a call (604) 988- 2791. For eastern Canada call Steve Bingham.

There is also an Oz Moot Dec 29/95-Jan 7/96. They have challenged the Canadians to have a larger contingent than they had at the Ontario Moot. Soooooooo we need at LEAST 90 people from across Canada to go. Tanya is definitely going so give her a call at 988-4421 if you want to go or need more info. Well i suppose that's all folks.

Eh, Canadian Moot Report

Twelve B.C. Rovers had a most awesome time as they were the largest Provincial Contingent. Things that we did:

Horseback riding, caving, cycling, houseboating, hiking, canoeing, diving, nude can-can dancing (Craig), white water rafting, climbing and repelling, Toronto day life tours, City T.V. Lunch T.V., Niagra Falls Tour, Ottawa Tour, Much Music Video Road Show and Much More.

There was twice as many Australians than Canadians and the guys outnumbered the girls by a ratio of about 4 to 1.

Marc had a fun time. Did Karen have a fun time too?! Speaking of fun times, word has it that our New Jersey Rover (Tracey) was enjoying herself with all the various activities, including dancing with 7 men at the same time. Tracey, you party animal!!!

No Steak at the Moot, so you have to come to B.C. for a real Steak BBQ.

Islands Region

Not much has happened in Islands Region. They did send two delegates (Mark and Alison from Port Alberni) to the Provincial Conference and both had a great time. Mindy from 1st Nanaimo gracefully represented Islands region at Rosemary Heights and well, well, we'll talk more about MINDY in the Rosemary Heights report. Wink, Wink, Nudge, Nudge, Say No More, Say No More!!!! Rick, you better read that report!

The big news from Islands Region is the Engagement announcement of Dave(Englishman)Lambert and Debbie (Cradle Robber)Lowry. Congratulations!!!

Victoria Region

"Damned if I know" as per Jason on the happenings of Victoria Rovers. However, they love Steak!

For the real report we turn to Mike Hall. Victoria Rovers will be running half of the Scout Fall BP Woodsmans Camp, will be involved in Apple Day and will be cooking for the Venturer 1 / Rover 1 Woodbadge course on the last weekend of October. The region will also be hosting the Provincial Rover Roundtable A.G.M. on the first weekend of November.

Interior Region

Jason is soon to be an Interior Region Rover, so here is the scoop with Interior. There are two Crews. The existing Crew is very inactive and the new Crew, 1st Kamloops, is where Jason will be going to help out. That is about all that Jason knows, so the next issue we should have a great report.

Yukon Region

Yes, we have a small report from our friends way up in our vast land. According to the Yukon Tourism Guide, from the list courtesy of another lost whole moose catalogue, : "There are more than three (3) flying squirrels and a very large number of fur bearers and they are still looking for the Hefalumps". We think there is at least one or two lone Rovers out there in the Frozen tundra. Still haven't heard from them, but they're probably still thawing out from last years winter.

Provincial Roundtable

Now the provincial report, with Gord typing and Colleen dictating. Not everything dictated, however, will be typed. Then again, not everything typed was dictated!

First Colleen would like to respond to all the derogatory comments made towards her, and disco in general. Boney M. was a musical genius! And disco isn't that bad, ok? OK? Hello?

Colleen doesn't personally know 'Disco Bob', but thinks he's probably an OK guy. Ok, BC Rovering Mag matchmaking at work here. Disco steak Bob, you can reach Colleen @ 942-4129.

There was a Rover Conference held in from July 29st to Aug 1st, 1994.

It was awesome,
Tanya is dancing with a short, black, fuzzy thing.
Sorry, it was awesome, like we were saying.
We are family!

Ok, about the conference, it was mentally stimulating. Ok, actually, the conference was a huge success, and after this report will be a complete conference report.

Ok, a huge, huge, huge success.
Next! Please!

BC Moot 1995 will be held the Labour day weekend in 1995, somewhere hot (within BC, of course).

The theme will be *DISCO MOUNTAIN BIKING IN A HAUNTED HOUSE*. Note, this theme was thought up before urban orienteering. Kinda scares ya, doesn't it!

But it's gonna be a blast. For more information, or to help out (maybe you have a mountain bike, or a haunted house, or something) please call Tanya (is someone following me?) @ (604) 988-4421. Paul would like to remind readers not from the Vancouver area to dial 1 before Tanya's phone number. If you don't, you may meet someone new from your own area!

Ummmmmm, the next Provincial Roundtable will be moved to a new location. The A.G.M. will take place at "The Diving Unit Pacific" in the Naval Base in Victoria. The meeting will start at 1pm. Be there! As promised it will be a weekend event, starting on Friday night. On Saturday morning we will be given a guided tour of some of the Naval Ships that are at the base. We will also receive a Harbour Tour aboard a Naval ship. How about that! There will be many things to do while at the Naval Base such as HOT TUB, Ping Pong, Pool and much, much more! We might even have all meals provided, but we will let you know of that as we get more information. The Diving Unit is just off Sooke Road at the Naval Yard. For more information call Mike Hall @ (604) 475-6615 or Miss Provincial (Colleen) @ 942-4129. If the line is busy, she's probably talking to Disco Bob.

To save money, Victoria Rovers will provide a ferry pick-up service. Call Mike Hall if you need one.

Rosemary Heights Report

Rosemary Heights was last weekend's event and it proved once again to be a major success. Our APC, Gary Ness had to sit with the Venturers, so Northern Region's very own ARC Rovers Earl Peden was left to try to control us. Rovers were well represented and many items were discussed. Among them were the updated Mailing and Phone lists of all regions to be compiled within the next few weeks; improve our communications in all aspects, with a suggestion that we start submitting Rovering photos and articles to Leader magazine.

The 1995 "Disco Mountain Biking in a Haunted House" Moot was discussed and a tentative site of Ruckle Point was chosen. This will have to be confirmed at the A.G.M. as Colin needs to book it. The Moot will take place next Labour Day Weekend (Sept. 1-4). It was also discussed on inter-linking Venturers with Rovers and it was decided to admit last year Venturers to All Rover Moots in B.C..

Other topics discussed were: Rover National Unity, Discovery of the Future, Youth Forum, Conference '94, Membership Drive, Handbook, A.G.M. Agenda and many of the upcoming events. We also discussed Fundraising ideas. We do have a new B.C. Rover Silk Screen available at all events and you can get whatever you want silk screened for a mere \$2.00. We also want a new Rover Sticker. So please bring all your designs and slogans to the A.G.M., as we will be selecting our new Design and slogan at the A.G.M..

Of course there was fun to be had. The Rovers livened up the weekend by doing many boisterous fun things. For instance, Dinner was a VERY FUN TIME. Since we helped set up the dining tables, we had the honour of setting up the Presidents' Table. We could not understand why they had such a hard time getting their napkins off their table. Gary was very nice in "donating" the Rovers some refreshing beverages. We happened to acquire just enough dessert, thanks to Larry (ARC Rovers FAR), Mike Hall (Victoria) and Tanya (VCR).

Following Dinner and regional meetings, it was then off to Chelsea's (Gord & Araan's newborn baby) Warming Party. Many Rovers attended, including Aussie Rover Pauline. It was a very late night, and morning was to come very soon. Too soon!

We woke up at 8am and slowly got ready for Scouts Own. Since we were in charge, we tried something very different for the Provincial Scouters. We had them partake in the "Trust Game". It went over very well and there was many positive comments.

Other highlights of the weekend included: Colleen's talent of tying a cherry stem with her tongue was an attraction to many; Colin's craving for sucking on a variety of candy suckers; Tanya's amazing talent for Pictionary; Mike and his Navy Jokes; Dave the Chauffeur and then there was MINDY! Oh what can we say about Mindy? She tried to make us believe that she was pure and innocent. Well, Dave told us about many things that we can not dare mention in this fine magazine about Mindy. We were all quite Shocked! Something about \$50 and a refund. Wink! Wink! Nudge! Nudge! Say No More! SAY NO MORE!

We did end off the weekend in the comforts of the ABC Restaurant. We sort of borrowed Gary's reservation for the whole provincial Executive party for Brunch. He was lucky that there was an extra table for him. We especially made sure that there was plenty of toys for both him and Bernie to play with. Enough Said!

Conference Report More Words From the West

I Overview

In 1991 the British Columbia / Yukon Rover Roundtable decided to host provincial moots and conferences on alternating years. The second BC/Y Rover Conference was

held July 29 to August 1, 1994 at the Morris Valley Scout Camp in British Columbia. There were approximately 28 Rovers from around the province in attendance (unfortunately, no one from Yukon was able to attend), along with two advisors, and our APC Gary Ness. The Conference delegates would also like to thank our special guest, John Peach, head of the Contemporary Rover Program Development Task Force and member of the National Program Committee for Rovers for coming all the way from Nova Scotia to bring us up to date on the status of the Rover Program review.

Perhaps the most important single point to come out of the weekend conference was the fact that B.C. Rovers recognize and appreciate National Office's efforts to gather youth input during the current extensive program review. It is clear that there was significant youth input in the development of the "Discovery of the Future" draft discussion report. We hope that youth (both current members and our successors) will continue to have the opportunity to contribute and participate actively in the ongoing development of the Rover program and of Scouts Canada.

The Conference was divided into large group presentations, small group discussions, and recreational activities. The presentation topics were: Discovery of the Future (John Peach, NPC) and National Youth Forum Update (Paul Mozsar, BC delegate). For the smaller discussion topics, delegates were divided into groups of 7 to 12 and discussed squireship, the Rover handbook, and the role of spirituality in Scouting. Recreational activities included presentations and demonstrations on Amateur radio use, mountain biking instruction and excursions, rappelling, and of course, simple free time. After dark, things became more creative as Rovers turned their attention to midnight football and glow in the dark pillow fights. All of these activities gave participants a chance to test themselves and to learn new skills. The weekend proved to be very intense, and, according to delegates' comments, very informative.

II Conference Sessions and Recommendations 1. Presentations

Discovery of the Future

John Peach, NPC and Head of the Contemporary Rover Program Development Task Group (CRPD), presented the history, findings, and recommendations of the Committee for the future of Rovering in Canada. In March 1994, the CRPD released a draft report of their recommendations for discussion purposes called "Discovery of the Future." John provided conference delegates with detailed explanations of the reasoning behind much of the report and listened to our concerns with the task group's conclusions.

This session was the most valuable of the whole conference. It was even extended into two time slots, replacing some small group discussions. The Rovers present were very interested in learning about what is being planned for the future of our program. It was pointed out that few, if any, of the proposed

changes would affect anyone currently in Rovers because the changes would not come into effect for some time. That is irrelevant. Current Rovers have gained and are still gaining an immeasurable amount from our time in Rovers. It would not be fair to deny younger members of Scouting the chance to have the same experience just because they were born a few years later.

One strong focus of the Discovery report seems to be that the knighthood theme usually does not work well and is often destructive. Conference delegates agreed that the report seemed to confuse the current Rover program with the knighthood theme. The knighthood theme is not the only allowable or acceptable theme in Rovering today. Scouts Canada does not limit crews to this theme, and any restrictions or discouragement that crews with other themes face seems to be arising at more local levels. This is not a good reason to attempt to eradicate knighthood from Rovering. The values of knighthood — *helping those who are weaker than yourself and working on personal development to increase your ability to help others* — are still valid today, no matter what theme they are embedded in. Clearer guidelines from National indicating that there are many other valid themes available to Rovers and that it is up to each crew to choose what works best for that crew would meet with much less opposition from current Rovers and would ensure that the program has wide appeal to youth today and tomorrow, without destroying the part in Rovering history played by the knighthood theme.

The other main point of contention was the recommendation that the oldest program section of Scouting should be limited to a three year program for 18-21 year olds. Conference delegates ranged in age from 18 to 25. Not one delegate felt that he or she would have learned enough from Rovers in only three years. Several delegates did not even join Rovers until they were well past 18. The Rover program begins at a time when youth are leaving school and going out to the "real world." Some go directly to jobs; some go to university, college, or technical institutes. Few are completely settled into adult life by 21. The Discovery report itself notes 21 as the youngest age at which youth tend to "go their own direction" (p. 12). Should Scouting really be catering to only the most "advanced" developers? Conference delegates reiterated comments expressed by their crews and by other Rovers around the province: "18-21 is too short a program. The age limit should remain at 26, or at least 25, in line with WSO's guidelines on youth members."

Another reason for wanting a longer program is that it is difficult to become involved at the regional and provincial levels in only three years. Under the current program, most Rovers take a year or two to learn about Rovering, then serve on their crew executive, then move to Roundtables. The CRP does not foresee a need for Roundtables, yet Roundtables give young adults a vital chance to work together in larger groups and on larger projects than could be supported by a single crew. The CRP emphasizes business and job finding skills. Rover Roundtables, moots, and conferences provide excellent opportunities for Rovers to network, practise large scale

organizational and planning skills, learn how to budget, and even practise public speaking in front of large groups. Delegates were unanimously against the CRP as it is described in the Discovery report. Out of several possible alternatives, it was agreed that the solution that would benefit youth members of Scouting the most is:

1. Incorporate the content of the Contemporary Rover Program into an 18-26 year old Rover program section as an initial developmental stage.
2. Follow this initial developmental stage with a more structured "practicum" stage than exists in the Rover program as it is currently defined. This practicum stage would allow Rovers to practise and learn to teach the skills they have developed while still in the supportive environment of their peer group. The older Rovers would serve as mentors to the younger Rovers in the developmental stage. This structure would also be flexible enough to allow young adults who do not join Rovers until they are 19 or older to complete the developmental stage and perhaps even begin a practicum stage.

A task force was set up which will meet after the conference to work through these recommendations and provide a detailed description of British Columbia Rovers' proposed modifications to the Discovery discussion report. The task force's recommendations will be forwarded to John Peach for consideration by the National Program Committee, and will be appended to this report.

National Youth Forum

The World Scout Organization (WSO) recently issued a directive encouraging increased youth input into policy and planning decisions affecting youth programs in Scouting. Canada is one of the first countries to act on this directive. A National Youth Forum has been set up, and each province and territory has been invited to nominate two youth delegates to send to Forum meetings. At the National Conference in November 1993, Forum delegates were invited to participate as observers; however, because of short notice, not all provinces could send delegates. Since then, three Youth Forum delegates (including B.C.'s Paul Mozsar) have participated in the strategic planning meeting held in January of this year, and the Forum held its first official meeting at the May '94 National Council meeting.

The Youth Forum is still developing, but the basic framework has been set in place. The Forum provides an excellent opportunity for Youth members from all sections to provide their input directly to the "high ups" in the Scouts Canada, and it signifies Scouts Canada's recognition of the importance of grass roots input into policy and planning decisions. Conference delegates were concerned that the Forum gain the structure it needs to function effectively, and

most of the issues raised for B.C. delegates to take to the next forum meeting concerned the Forum itself. The issues and some suggestions follow:

1. How will the Youth Forum collect input from all sections? Rovers may have Roundtables and Venturers may have forums, but there is no existing method of collecting province-wide input from the three younger sections.
2. How will information from the Youth Forum get back down to the grassroots level? Suggestions include:
 - a) letters to Leader magazine to directly reach section leaders
 - b) organized distribution of information at major camps or jamborees
 - c) articles in regional and provincial newsletters
 - d) focus on increased communication links between regions and provinces.
3. There is a need to increase the effectiveness of the marketing of all sections, not only to the community (a need that is well recognized), but also within Scouting. Suggestions include:
 - a) Encouraging Group Committee members to take their Group Committee Woodbadge.
 - b) Ensuring Group Committees recognize that there are five sections and that all are important to Scouting.
 - c) Spreading the word about what youth in each section do (primarily the role of the section leader or advisor).
4. It is important to ensure that the content of a section's program is challenging enough to keep members interested for their full time in that section, but not so difficult as to scare them away or discourage them. Flexibility to meet the needs and abilities of each individual youth member is important.
5. Program Delivery is a key area that needs constant attention and support. A great program at the national level means nothing if the section leaders don't have the training,

skills, or support to implement it. Suggestions include:

- a) Promoting formal training (Woodbadge).
- b) Encouraging experienced leaders to stay with Scouting for its own rewards after their children leave.
- c) Ensuring program guidelines meet the needs of youth through frequent opportunities for specific feedback from the youth.

6. There was some question as to whether the role of spirituality in Scouting should be changed to make it more contemporary. Within B.C. many participants feel that spirituality in the sense of duty and devotion to supreme being(s) does not play a significant part in their Scouting activities, and this is considered appropriate. According to written materials from Scouts Canada, spirituality in this sense should play a significant role. B.C. Rovers are interested in what youth members from other provinces think about the role of spirituality in Scouting today -- both as set out by Scouts Canada, and as practised in the day to day activities of the sections. (See also discussion group on Spirituality, this report.)

2.

Discussion Groups

Handbook

When the current Rover Handbook was first published, many Rovers were disappointed to see how small it was. Since then, there has been a lot of talk of putting together a more comprehensive handbook -- either to replace the current one nationally, or simply to fill it out provincially -- but little agreement has been reached as to what the new version should include or who should develop it. During the handbook session, delegates reviewed old Rover handbooks, as well as handbooks from Rovers in other provinces and countries, and many other reference books related to Rovers. The results were:

1. A table of contents for a new expanded handbook to be adopted by B.C. Rovers and available to any Rovers elsewhere who were interested; and
2. A handbook committee with a specified timeline. The committee will have a draft of the handbook ready for circulation at the November AGM of the Provincial Roundtable, and the handbook will

be approved at the April GM.

The primary purpose of the handbook will be to serve as a detailed and self-contained reference book for both new and existing Rover crews. The handbook will provide fundamental knowledge that individual Rovers and crews can build on to meet their own developmental needs. It will include sections on core topics relevant to Rovering and not subject to frequent change with the times. Hence, it will include Rover history, but not current social issues. Delegates believed that while accurate information on issues such as substance abuse and STD's are vital to youth today, a Rover Handbook is not the appropriate place to provide this information. The issues and the information young people need changes far more rapidly than the frequency with which handbooks are updated. The handbook will, however, include suggested readings and resources both on each topic it covers and on important but rapidly changing social issues.

For the topics covered, delegates agreed, it is important to make clear that the handbook offers suggestions only. There is no one "right" way to run a Rover crew, or to be a Rover. The knighthood theme, for example, is just one of many themes that a crew can adopt, and it is important that the possibility and benefits of variety be made explicit. Wherever possible, the handbook will offer several suggestions of how to deal with a particular aspect of Rovering, and it will describe each option *in detail*.

The handbook will also include a glossary of terms that people new to Rovers, or new to Scouting altogether, may not be familiar with.

The suggested table of contents for the BC/Y Handbook follows (n.b. the order of sections and/or titles may change in the final version):

- I. The Rover Crew
 - Themes/vocation
 - Uniform (formal & informal, incl. diagrams)
 - Rovering for people with disabilities
2. Administration
 - Rover-related sections from B.P.&P.
 - Crew Executive
 - Running a Meeting
 - Finances
 - Roundtables
 - Standards of Conduct
 - Running a camp or event (incl. legal requirements)
3. Service
 - Within the crew
 - To other sections
 - To the community

- To yourself
4. Starting a Crew & Recruitment
 - By-Laws/Constitutions (samples)
 - Advisors (roles & responsibilities)
 - Probationary period (for crews and individuals)
 - Ideas for finding & recruiting new members
 5. Relationships
 - Within the crew
 - Within Scouting (e.g. with Group/Group Committee)
 - With the community
 - With Guiding
 - Group Dynamics
 - Leadership styles and skills
 6. Awards & Training
 - Badges (sets of suggested criteria) with diagrams
 - General Awards
 - Non-Scouting Awards (Duke of Edinburgh, First Aid, etc.)
 - Rover Basic courses
 - Woodbadge
 7. Program
 - planning a program
 - service
 - social
 - moots & activities
 - implementing a theme
 - quests (personal and crew)
 - planning crew camps
 - Long range planning
 - Rover games and activities
 - Scouting skills
 8. Probationary Period (a.k.a. squireship in Knighthood crews)
 - Guidelines for "sponsors"
 - Guidelines for "squires"
 - Vigil
 - Sample ceremonies (from different themes)
 9. Scouts Canada
 - History of Scouting
 - History of Rovers
 - Who's who (hierarchy & organization)
 - How to find out who to contact & where to contact them
 10. Miscellaneous reference section
 - Knot tying
 - Flag handling
 - Basic outdoors skills

- etc.

11. Glossary

Squireship

Most crews in B.C. operate under a knighthood theme or at least use the concept of squireship as a probationary period for new members. The purpose of squireship is to allow trust and respect to develop between the existing crew and a new member. It gives the new member a chance to learn about both Rovering and a particular crew so that the individual can decide if he or she is ready for, or even interested in, Rovers. Squireship also gives the crew a chance to test new members to see if they are responsible and dedicated enough to be conscientious, contributing members of the crew.

Squireship is not meant as a time of humiliation for the squire, nor are squires meant to be slaves to invested Rovers. There has been some concern that sometimes the boundary between testing a squire's loyalty and attempting to humiliate another human being have been pushed too far. In some cases, crews require squires to do all of the work for a camp -- not to practise their skills, but simply to give the invested Rovers a relaxing weekend. This is NOT what squireship is about.

Conference delegates felt strongly that the role of the sponsor in the squireship process is often not given enough emphasis. The sponsor has at least as much, if not more, responsibility to the squire as the squire has to the crew. It is the role of the sponsor to teach the squire about Rovers, Scouting, and any activities that are important to the crew (e.g. theme related activities). The sponsor also acts as a liaison between the squire and the rest of the crew and of Scouting. It is important that the sponsor ensure that the communication lines are always open and that the squire understands what he or she is expected to do, *and why*.

Sponsors should not expect their squires to do anything they would not do themselves, nor should they expect them to do anything that they cannot do themselves through lack of skill. If the sponsor arrives at camp only to find he or she does not know how to set up the new tent, assigning the task of setting up camp to the squire is not appropriate. Both squire and sponsor should work together until a solution is found.

The sponsor is also responsible for knowing enough about Rovering and Scouting to be able to answer the squire's questions. If the squire asks questions the sponsor cannot answer, the sponsor is responsible for finding out those answers and bringing them back to the squire.

The sponsor may want to plan several meetings alone with the squire during the squireship period to ensure that the squire is satisfied with his or her progress, or to address reasons why the crew or squire may not be satisfied.

The sponsor is also responsible for exposing the squire to wider aspects of Rovering than just the crew. The sponsor

should encourage the squire to participate in intergroup activities such as regional and provincial roundtables, moots, etc.

It is important that the sponsor lead by example; if the squire is expected to be in uniform at an event, the sponsor should be too.

Finally, the sponsor is responsible for standing up for the squire. If other Rovers (whether or not in the same crew) try to take advantage of the squire, the sponsor should step in and remind the others that the squire is already doing what he or she is expected to do and should not be taken advantage of just because of squireship status.

The squire, on the other hand, is responsible for showing his or her dedication to the crew and interest in joining the crew by conscientiously and thoroughly completing all tasks that are assigned within a reasonable period of time. Conference delegates felt that a squireship period of not less than three months and not longer than one year would be most appropriate. The lower time limit is necessary because time is a very important factor in testing a new member's dedication and loyalty. A new member may be very willing to show up at a fun event that is just about to happen, but will that member be willing to show up to the planning meetings that are necessary to organize the next event? Three months also helps to ensure that the squire will be able to participate in a variety of the crew's activities, and this helps to ensure that the squire's interests really do match the crew's. The upper time limit is suggested to ensure that the compatibility testing (which is really the essence of squireship) be as efficient as possible. Rovers can continue to learn new skills once they join the crew. If a squire demonstrates an interest and desire to learn skills that are important to the crew, he or she should not be denied "full Rover status" just because all of those skills have not been mastered.

It should be explained before or at the time a potential member is accepted as a squire that the squireship period is a time for a squire to earn the crew's respect and to demonstrate his or her commitment to the crew. Commitment can be demonstrated by attending a variety of crew events, willingness to take on an organizational role, and interest in crew activities, among other ways.

The squire should also realize that squireship is a time both to practise and improve existing skills, and to learn new skills. A squire who is an excellent outdoorsperson may have no experience with formal business meetings. While the squireship period should not neglect outdoor activities, training should focus more on the squire's weak areas, perhaps by having the squire help to plan agendas for some meetings. Squireship should also be a time to focus and learn more about oneself. This process culminates with the vigil, which is usually undertaken just before investiture. Before the vigil, however, the squire should also be testing his or her limits, goals, and values to determine what is best for his or her life.

The squire has a duty to learn about all aspects of the crew and Rovering and to participate in a reasonable number of crew activities. What is "reasonable" depends on the crew and on the individual's other commitments. For example, a squire in university should not be expected to play a large role in an event that occurs during final exams. The specific skills the squire should learn will vary by crew. Crews that do a lot of hiking and camping need members with different skills than crews that focus on water activities. A "squire's manual" is a useful project for a crew to develop. It should explain in detail a particular crew's expectations of a squire and the role of squires and sponsors within the crew. Crews that have developed such manuals find them very useful.

As part of learning about Rovers, squires should be encouraged to attend any available training courses, such as Rover Basics. They should also keep a log of their squireship activities that could become part of a crew log or be passed on to that squire's squires at a later date. The log would help to clarify what is expected of a squire and what areas of the squireship were the most difficult or most challenging for the squire.

As part of learning about Scouting, squires may be encouraged to help out with the meetings and activities of the younger sections in the Group, keeping in mind that even the most dedicated squire has only so much time to devote to Scouting activities.

In summary, delegates felt that clearer guidelines for both squire and sponsor would help to clarify the purpose of the squireship process and would remind crews of the value of a good squireship program. At the same time, however, the guidelines should be clearly set out as a philosophy with suggestions of how to implement it. Crews should not feel restricted to particular activities or methods.

Spirituality in Scouting

Delegates agreed one hundred percent with Scouting's intent not to promote particular religions. Religious choices and practices should be left up to the individual and should be taught by an appropriate non-Scouting organization. If a group is sponsored by and closely associated with a church, it is still the role of the church, not the section leaders, to provide religious education. This also led to some discussion on the meaning of the term spirituality as used by Scouts Canada. In order to develop one's spirituality, does one have to believe in one (or more) supreme beings? If so, then atheists are effectively barred from Scouting. Delegates felt strongly that spirituality should be interpreted to allow the definition of finding what is inside oneself, regardless of whether one believes there is any greater being or purpose in the universe. If this is what Scout's Canada intended, a clear statement to this effect would help to clarify the situation. If this is not what was intended, delegates disagree with this restriction.

Wrap-up

The second BC/Y Rover Conference was a great success in every way. Delegates had the chance to learn more about Rovering, to discuss their views on the future direction of Rovering, and to get together with their fellow Rovers in more informal activities -- from Sunday drives to Sasquatch hunting.

We would like to thank everyone who donated time and more tangible items for helping to make this event run so smoothly, and we encourage all B.C. Rovers (or any other interested Rovers, for that matter) to plan to attend the next BC/Y Rover Conference in '96. We also encourage all Rovers to let National know your views on the future of Rovering in Canada. Send your thoughts and feedback to the National Youth Forum via Paul Mozsar (c/o Provincial Office) or send them directly to the National Office.

Next year, by tradition, the Provincial Roundtable will be hosting a Moot. The Klondike Moot of '93 was attended by over 70 Rovers and included everything from Australian party tricks to jailbreaks. Next year's Moot promises even more surprises. Planning has already begun for this fun and challenge focused event, tentatively scheduled for the Labour Day weekend. The theme that is currently winning the most support is "Disco Mountain Biking in a Haunted House." The event should challenge your creativity, if nothing else! Any B.C. Rovers interested in helping to plan this event should be sure to attend the provincial AGM in November, or contact the executive of the Provincial Roundtable for more information.

The Contemporary Rover Program

(As written from the 1994 B.C. Rover Conference)

I Preamble

Rovers are a program section, concentrating largely on service, and personal development where related to service. This includes service to other Rovers, service to Scouting, and service to the community in general. Because of the diverse interests held by 18 to 26 year olds, groups such as Rovers crews are needed to keep young people today interested in service as an organized entity.

By dividing the Rover program into two successive stages, young adults will be able to focus first on developing the skills they will need later in life. They will then have opportunities to practise what they have learned while still involved with a known, supportive peer group. This format will assist young adults of today in becoming both competent and confident members of our society.

This structure would also be flexible enough to allow young adults who do not join Rovers until they are 19 or older to complete the developmental stage and perhaps even begin a practicum stage.

II Nonemclature

President:

Often called the "mate". Maximum 1 year term recommended. Co-ordinates crew activities, represents the crew to Regions, Provincial, etc.

Vice-President:

Assists the President, acting president in the president's absence.

Secretary:

Keeps and distributes minutes of meetings, oversees all crew correspondence etc.

Treasurer:

Takes care of financial and banking needs of the crew.

Consultant:

Formerly called "Advisor".

III Group Structure

1. Age 18 to 26.
2. Recommended crew size will be 4 to 15 people.
3. Job descriptions will be required for offices.
4. Officers will be elected with a definite term of office.
5. The role of the Consultant will be clearly defined.
6. Roundtables will be used to promote communication between crews, regions, and provinces.

IV Developmental Stage**1. Introduction Phase**

- a) Introductory Consultation (meet the crew).
- b) Attendance (with crew @ events, meetings, service projects, etc.).

All new Rovers, regardless of their age at the time of joining Rovers, are expected to complete phase 1.

2. Probationary Phase

- a) commit and document agreement to:
 - training
 - level of participation
 - requirements of membership
 - regular performance reviews by the crew.

This phase usually takes 3 to 6 months, with a recommended maximum of 1 year.

At the end of phase 2, completed to the crew's satisfaction, a 'ceremony' is held, with the new Rover making a public declaration of commitment.

3. Core Program Phase (Basic Personal Development Skills)

- a) communications
 - public speaking
 - interpersonal relationships
 - etc.
- b) problem solving
- c) process management
- d) situational leadership
- e) planning: immediate, short, and long term
- f) conflict resolution
- g) group dynamics
- h) needs assessment
- i) strategic planning
- j) networking

This Core Program Phase will assist Rovers in all aspects of life, including employment preparation and peer relationships. Specific subjects such as resume writing, interview preparation, employer/employee relationships etc. may be addressed by the Rover Crew as they deem necessary.

Upon completion of the Core Program Phase, Rovers have completed the Developmental Stage of the Rover Program, and are ready to put their skills and abilities to use in the Practical Stage.

V Practical Stage

Rovers in the Practical Stage provide essential opportunities for Rovers in the Developmental Stage to learn by observation. Rovers in the Developmental Stage in turn provide a 'sounding board' for Rovers in the Practical Stage to evaluate the effectiveness of the skills and abilities they learned while in the Developmental Stage.

Roundtables are especially important for Rovers to practise public speaking and large-scale event management. Roundtables give young adults a vital chance to work together in larger groups and on larger projects than could be supported by a single crew.

They also provide excellent opportunities for Rovers to network, practice large-scale organizational and planning skills, learn how to budget, and even practise public speaking in front of large groups.

Following is a brief example of the many things Rovers in the Practical Stage participate in:

1. Serve on other executives:
 - a) Regional Roundtables
 - b) Provincial Roundtables
 - c) Group Committees.
2. Act as leaders in other sections.
3. Trainers for Woodbadge courses.
4. Run or help run other events:
 - a) Beaverees
 - b) Cuborees
 - c) Stations at other large scale activities for other sections.

5. Community Service:
- a) Community Parades
 - b) Terry Fox Run
 - c) Amateur Sporting Events and Games
 - d) Charity Fundraisers etc.



CHILI DE ROVER

Ingredients

- 1 1/2 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 onion chopped
- 1/8 cup garlic chopped
- 1 can 341 ml corn, whole kernel
- 1 can 284 ml sliced mushrooms
- 1 small can tomato paste
- 1 package chili seasoning, mild or hot

1. In a large pan add 1 tablespoon oil, than add onion and garlic, stir until brown.

2. Add meat and salt and pepper to taste.

3. cook until meat is brown

4. drain all fat from meat.

5. Add tomato paste and seasoning mix, stir in well.

6. Add corn and mushrooms, add water if the mixture is to thick.

7. Simmer for 10 to 15 minutes, then serve.

Serve by itself, or on a bed of home fries, or with a grated

cheese topping.

Cost per serving \$2.50 approximately

All ingredients are available at your local supermarket.



I'm back dear readers (did you miss me as much as I missed You?! As usual, I'm running late, so I'll keep this article fairly short, but I wanted to comment on Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot, which I've just come home from. You should have been there! This Moot, and the forum that was part of it (more about that below), have renewed my enthusiasm and my faith in Rovering, and reinforced my belief that, to paraphrase Mark Twain, "news of the impending death of Rovering has been greatly exaggerated". The Moot was certainly not without its problems, but the fact that it happened at all, in spite of all the obstacles, proved that a dedicated group of Rovers can accomplish anything if they set their minds to it. If such a successful event can be put on by such a relatively small group, surely the Rovering membership as a whole can accomplish a more important task, such as coming up with a program to save the movement we all cherish. Congrats to Karen, Ian, and all the Moot staff, and thanks for the great time!

I'm sure this issue of the magazine will contain other stories about the Moot, so I won't dwell on it too much, but there are some comments which need to be made. At first glance, the attendance figures look quite disappointing: among the mere 127 full-time participants, there were twice as many Aussies (82) as Canadians! The dozen British Columbians made up the largest (and easily the best) provincial contingent, and I could count the number of participants from any other province without having to take off my shoes. I'm told the entire Rover population of Saskatchewan attended, but I was surprised by the low

numbers from Alberta and Quebec - I guess School and other commitments got in the way. The low numbers from Ontario are not that surprising though, when you remember that Ontario made up most of the staff, and local part-time participants swelled the numbers considerably, especially on the last weekend. Also, as I have noted before in this article, it is always a tough sell to get local Rovers to attend a Moot of this scope, because people look at the cost and the program and figure "I could do these activities any time". Unfortunately, people who take this position miss a lot, because the real value of a Moot like this is not in the program itself, but in meeting other Rovers from across the country and around the world. As I said before, you should have been there.

For those who don't know, the Moot followed the Australian model, and included a three-day off-site expedition in the middle. I chose the Montreal Pot Pourri expedition, but little did I know that I'd end up being one of the drivers! It turned out that Quebec Rovers were, indeed, involved in the Moot, as a group of them looked after their nine visitors in style. (And yes, Paul, the Mad Hatter was part of the tour, but only because the first place we tried didn't seem to have room for 15 thirsty Rovers). Thanks Julie (that's my fellow journalist "Joules" for those who are keeping score), Glen, John, Eric, and all the gang for showing us a great time! I've almost dried out now after that jetboating trip! But hey, Julie, let me give you some advice: "Relax", "Don't Worry (Be Happy)", "Go With the Flow", etc. Once you learn that even though "Shzt Happens" things always have a way of working out, you'll have a lot more fun. Thanks again for all your efforts.

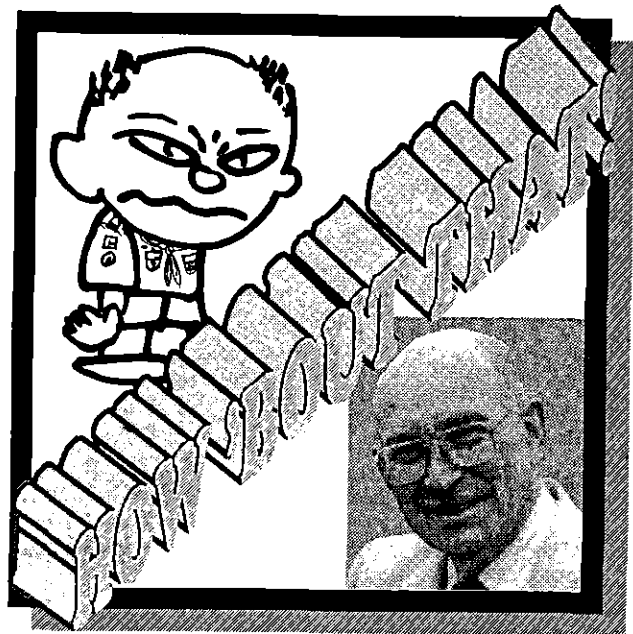
I mentioned earlier that one of the real benefits of a Moot of this type is the opportunity to meet other Rovers from across the country and around the world. I could fill a whole article expounding on some people's efforts in this area, particularly the exploits of some members of one particular North Vancouver crew, but that would be straying into the realm of 'inside jokes', and I'd hate to have my article look like "B.C. Rovering"! Heck, some of their jokes are so 'inside' that even I can't figure out what they're talking about, and I know most of the people and events involved. Any out-of-Province readers of that article must be constantly scratching their heads.

Aside from all the fun, and the service projects completed on Friday, one of the most important aspects of the Moot was the forum on the *Discovery of the Future* document, sponsored by ORRT. I'm sure there will be a report on this elsewhere in this magazine, so I won't add too much here, except to say that it was good to see such a healthy dialogue, from all parts of the country and other countries as well. I attended primarily as a reporter, without intending to participate too much, but, as usual, I couldn't keep my mouth shut, and ended up making far more trips to the microphone than I intended. I was very impressed with the way the forum was run, and left with the feeling that it, and similar events held recently in B.C. and elsewhere, may well be the beginning of a move not only to save but update the thing we call

Rovering. The key thing now is not to lose the momentum that was started, and remember that *Discovery of the Future* is a discussion paper, not a cast-in-stone policy. I personally see a lot of good ideas in the *Discovery of the Future* document, although I have a lot of problems with some aspects of it. The important thing now is to not get hysterical and over-react, but rather support the good points, suggest realistic alternatives for the parts that need work, and come up with an updated program we can all be proud of.

As I've said before, the biggest threat to Rovering comes not from the so-called ivory towers in Ottawa, but from apathy within the Rover population. Which brings me full circle, to the point I made at the start of this article: the Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot proved that Rovers can accomplish anything, if they set their minds to it. You should have been there.

Keep on Rovering,
Bruce Dagg



In the back of this magazine you will find a flyer that was put out by the 11th Cambridge Rover crew. They had 10,000 of the printed to distribute to all the schools in their city. If you wish to copy it, (change the address of course) feel free.

On August 8th John and Lois Lockner celebrated their 30th Wedding Anniversary. Their children put John's and Lois's picture on the paper, boy! did they look young!!! They are the Skips of 1st Wilmot Rovers.

My wife and I managed to get to Eh Canadian Rover Moot for all of 4 hours, on Sunday the day after it opened. Everybody whom I had hope to meet were out of camp at events. Nice guys, I'm all primed to meet and talk, and they run away to Wonderland! Oh well, we did get to see the beautiful camp, some Rover taking scuba lessons in the pool with a shark, (no I am not going to explain).

At lunch I spotted a Australian Rover who had a T shirt on the asked the question on the front, "What the hell is a Rover?" and on the back stated:

"Rover (n) - A male or female Homosapiens between the age of 18 & 26, dedicated to fun, adventure, while serving the community in the Scouting Way."

I liked the way the emphasis fell on fun, so I went over introduced myself and met Peter Willmott a Rover and a Agricultural Scientist. I asked him whether the T shirt was his invention. To my surprise it was being put out by his council in Aussie land. I also met the former editor of Australia's "Coming Events" oh, oh, I forgot the beautiful girl's name. She did an excellent job as editor.

This issue you will see many more comments on document known as "Discovery of the Future" I hope that others are making the feelings and views known. Also in this issue is the last leg of the Wandering Duo's report, they are now back in Canada to rest enjoy their grandchildren and rumour has it, to plan their next excursion.

John tells me he is getting responses on internet, so he is going to set up a bulletin board for coming events, he may even have a blurb in this issue to that effect.

Time to drop my pen and finish packing, tomorrow we head for Snake island and Search Moot, for a little R&R, (if you believe that at a moot you'll believe anything!)

Keep on Rovering,
Don

P.S. My back aches, my legs feel like rubber, but we had a heck of a time at Search Moot, my crew did the unthinkable and took the Over All Trophy. Wow! the second one this year I can hardly stand it

TECHNIQUE TO OVERCOME THE LACK OF SELF CONFIDENCE

It's a great feeling. Something in your gut tells you that you can handle whatever life happens to throw your way.

But faith in yourself doesn't always come easily, or naturally. It is a learned behaviour, an attitude that needs constant reinforcement.

Here are some simple, immediate ways to jump-start your confidence.

BUY TIME: When you are thrown off guard with a tricky question, get firmer footing by saying, "That's an important issue. Let me think about it and get back to you in 10 minutes."

Prepare your response, then put yourself in a position of strength by opening the dialogue.

BAN SELF-BLAMING LANGUAGE: Drop the automatic apology and turn problems into pluses. Eg. Instead of saying, "I'm sorry this report is so long," make it, "Here is the most complete report you've seen on this topic."

FIGHT INTIMIDATION WITH PREPARATION: Don't be forced into feelings of ignorance or helplessness. For example, at your doctor's office outline your case or symptoms with dates, facts and steps already taken. Then feel free to read your prepared questions, write down the answers and ask for further advice. Try this technique with any potentially thorny discussion.

APPRECIATE YOURSELF AS OTHERS DO: Reread your resume. old birthday cards from your family, or fan letters you have received from friends or customers. Let them be reminders of how intelligent you are.

DO A HOUSEHOLD FIX-IT JOB: Repair the light switch, the hair dryer, the loose seat on your child's bike, the faucet. Don't wait for someone else to do it.

FOCUS ON THE FACTS: When someone loses his or her temper, don't assume the worst and panic. Ask "who, what, when, where and why" to turn the wrath into concrete information.

MAKE ALLIES: When you want something from someone, use the language of co-operation. For instance when discussing a squire's performance, don't blame the sponsor for problems. Instead enlist his or her help. Create a sense of partnership. Say, "let's think about how we can motivate him or her. How about you doing..... while I do?"

EXHIBIT GRACE UNDER PRESSURE: When you are criticized avoid defending yourself. Calmly say "Point taken," then change the subject.

FEEDBACK TO THE FUTURE



We submit this review of the draft report *Discovery of the Future: An In-Depth Analysis of Section Programming Potentials for Young Adults with Scouts Canada* for your consideration.

Every effort has been made to ensure that this review represents the collective views of the entire crew.

We are, on balance, please with much of what the draft proposal suggest. Furthermore, we also appreciative of the need to improve upon the Rover Program. Our perspective may be affected by the fact that the Rover Program seems to be alive and growing within our District. While this may impart some bias, it may also present an opportunity for others to learn something from our experience.

1 Comments on the Summary

1.1 Why is it problematic that Rovers is perceived as a fraternity? It is supposed to be a fraternity as described by Baden-Powell¹. The social aspect of Rovers is essential in terms of meeting the developmental needs of young adults².

1.2 Perceived problems with the badge program may be more of a communication or individual crew program problem than a badge problem. The Rambler badge is supposed to be dealt with by each crew on behalf of the individuals in the crew. This is valuable, given the differing needs and abilities of people in this stage of individualization. We did, in fact, forward our badge criteria to the Ontario Rover Round Table (ORRT) at their request, and recommended that National Council provide a guideline if necessary.

1.3 Over many years, certain advisors in our District have encourage their crews to do certain things such as run the Kub Kar Rally (which is now sen as a Rover Project) for which all concerned are truly appreciative. For this and other projects our rovers are seen as an integral part of the Scouting Community (the new uniform help in this regard). It is incumbent on all sections to be conscious of their image and reputation within the community. The new structure as described on page 30 is good in this regard. The Development Resource Team could attend to image management and inter-group (or section) relations as part of their mandate.

1.4 This organization, like many others, is not ever going

to be committed to something that is not compatible with the organization's present form. It is hard for people to relate to that which is constantly in a state of flux. Young adults are in a life phase which is almost pure flux. The Development Team will hopefully add sufficient stability to allow for diplomatic continuity, much like career civil servants who run this country, as follows; while young people come and go and perhaps make a valuable contribution, it would be the team that is present year after year.

1.5 An effective facilitator, who can adapt his personal style to a variety of group situations and needs, is often perceived as "nebulous". Rover Basic(s), Woodbadge Part I&II(s) (Crew), and the Rover literature are all very clear on what an advisor is all about. Points 1&2 on page iv are self evident. In item 3, there is an element of risk here where the possibility of mentor relationships is greatly reduced if not rendered unlikely. Point 4 is worth pondering. What is less than meaningful about the current system? It is the task of each crew to attach it's own meaning to the Rover badge program. How important is achievement recognition for this age group? Most Rovers seem content with routine adult leader recognition.

1.6 It is our experience that Rovers is a covenantal relationship, similar to marriage. In the beginning, you have to believe in something that you can't appreciate until have been part of it. For this reason, we would question the value in input form Venturers and youth at large in so far as their comments pertain directly to Rovers. We are generally amazed at the extent to which even our own Venturers leap to assumptions based on rumours which we, then, have to work hard to dispel. To this end while our ceremonies are still secret, we are more open with our quires, etc. We also make a continuous effort to involve our Venturers and others in appropriate activities. However, it doesn't follow that there is something wrong with Rovers, no matter what their assumptions are. Again the D.R.T. could do a lot to promote a balance and accurate impression of Rovers among the more junior sections.

1.7 By kicking the older Rovers into the adult volunteer regime, they may have less inclination to work with the younger Rovers. This may detract from their *raison d'être* for involvement in Scouting overall.

1.8 There needs to be a place in Scouting for young people who want the pleasure of each other's company, who like working with adults and kids but are not in a position, because of school, work, personality, etc., to commit to being regular section leaders. The value of cultivating such groups with a view to their future potential value to the organization is incalculable but there is certainly some benefit to having a source of occasional volunteers who have at least some background in the organization. It also provides a platform upon which further training may be built.

1.9 In what way does the knighthood theme not resonate with society today? Ever play dungeons and Dragons? The concepts of honour, valour, respect, and trust which are the

building blocks of the covenant in Rovers are very relevant to young adults who are in the process of ideology development (Erickson). The knighthood business is not just colour, ceremony and tradition but also a value system which, when properly imparted by knights to squires, is catching. The concept of honour in Rovers is the culmination of the value system implied throughout the younger sections. It means I can be trusted to do what I say I'm going to do. Having your thoughts, words and deeds functioning harmoniously is a key theme in both Shakespeare and the Bible. All of this experience assists young people in the process of acquiring a system of commanding ideas and ideology.

2 Issue Identification

2.1 Membership is stagnant -- Advisors most often start new crews in our district. The idea of a Development Resource Team would neatly address this task.

2.2 Is developmental homogeneity what you want? It is precisely the heterogeneous environment within which the mentor dynamics can occur between older and younger members in order to meet the developmental needs of both. Younger Rovers learn relationship skills; older ones learn to appreciate generative activity. We recognize that is only true of crew that insist on an element of grace in their relationships with younger or new Rovers. Again, a sage advisor can play a critical role here. (However, humanity, awareness, and the ability to model appropriate behaviour is not unique to veteran Scouters).

2.3 Any Company or Crew Part I will suffice to educate anyone as to the various postures and role appropriate to a Crew Advisor. It is easy to understand but sometimes hard to do. This will still be a cross to bear for advisors (consultants) under the new structure that is proposed. However, the new structure will also provide a forum (venue) through which advisors will also have continual input into the overall management for the program section. This should ensure continuity as young people come and go, something that is desperately lacking at present. At the same time, crews would have lost of space to function within and not perceive the "team" as running the program. It is unclear whether this will become a case of structure dictating roles or role dictating structure.

3 Background

3.1 Most members know that the number of registered Rovers, i.e. 160, is not a real number. Half of our crew help with other sections in other groups and have their registration paid for by that group/section committee and are registered as group/sections leaders.

3.2 In fact, in our group - and many others around here with which we are familiar - a lot of the leaders (especially the long-term leaders) are old Rovers. There is a small but persistent school of thought that says all adults should go through a "Rover" program before being accepted into any leadership role.

3.3 The relevant question here is "how many people in Scouting think of themselves as Rovers?" Then think of the impact that these people have on the Scouting Program as a whole. This leads to another issue. How many Rovers should there be? What number is logically projectable? Could we say that 1 out of 100 Beavers will become Rovers? What would constitute success? We are suspicious of any formula for change that does not contain criteria for success. There are approximately 70 Rovers in our District and about 400 adults registered, or 70 Rovers out of 3800 members. This means that there should be about 7,000 Rovers nationally if every District was like ours. Wouldn't that be a success?

3.4 While it is nice to get a group of young people together in 1990 and get them to agree to try and change things, was this viable? Most of these people are probably long gone, i.e. marriage, kids, sections leaders, careers, etc. Good ideas may be; wrong vehicle for change.

3.5 One does not love one's spouse conditionally. If a husband loves his wife with 99% of his brain, the residual 1% will eventually poison the entire relationship. Rovering and Scouting are in a similar covenantal relationship. The whole organization must embrace the Rover program unconditionally if it wants to ensure success in any measure. The organization needs to see the inherent worth of even a motley Crew in order to have the courage to live with it.⁴

4 Program Assessment

4.1 Which principles of Scouting are being used? These are not stated. It would be useful to see cause and effect here.

4.2 There is nothing with Service as in community service or as in service to God being used as an organizing theme for a program section. Admittedly, it doesn't make a great motto. Secondly, it is important for an advisor to help his crew establish a balance between directed and non-directed activity, viz. task activities in order to meet the developmental needs of different ages and maturity levels as opposed to social or leisure activities that also meet the same needs.

4.3 It is not logical and expectable that there should be a "mish mash" of variations in the above themes, i.e. to reflect the differing aggregate personalities of each crew.

4.4 While we can sense the validity of the "supposition" as it is labelled re: the limited appeal of even an updated version of the existing program, it would be interesting to know what analysis (line 3, page 11) led to this recognition. Analysis should lead to a conclusion. Speculation leads to supposition.

4.5 Young adults, i.e. 18-21, are interested in investing their new found identity (in a guarded fashion) in new relationships, those who are older realize the durability of their identity and want to put their ideas to work as well, to test drive a system of commanding ideas (in a covenantal relationship once more).

4.6 Why not split Rovers in half (as is suggested) and

thereby do a better job of each? This would make the task of being an advisor (consultant) for either section a lot easier. It is our opinion that the organization must embark on the two tasks concomitantly so as to avoid an orphan mentality in those young adults over 21 who cannot yet function as section leaders or adult volunteers, for whatever reasons. The trick is to do this in such a fashion as to not lose the mentor effect.

5 Program Assessment - Design

5.1 Having a "meaningful" badge program may be more important to the young "rover" section as opposed to the older Rovers.

5.2 (page 15, line 6) It is noted that rovers perceive that there is less wrong with the program than there is with the perception of it by others. This thought is left hanging and probably shouldn't be.

5.3 (page 17, paragraph 2) There is an unpleasant cynicism to this paragraph, i.e. that most rovers don't care about the age because they will be out by the turn of the century. This issue is neither a compelling nor a constraining factor in the argument for change. It will be important here to point out to those advisors who may feel disenfranchised that the new structure (DRT) will further empower adult leaders in the new section.

5.4 The new promise is okay except that it does not recognize the theistic nature of our organization which, we believe, is a requirement for world acceptance.

5.5 The new program design seems do-able. But what about the program for those over 21?

6 Discussion

6.1 (page 37) Who said that the "old Rover" program could not develop and flourish within the guild program? As a crew, we have looked into the possibility of setting up a Rover guild so as to provide some space for the younger members of the crew. To this end the guild people have been very helpful. We have also met with guild people.

6.2 (page 38) Let us not overlook the value of Rovering and Scouting in general as a nice break from the social and career pressures of the world at large. It is a microcosm within which young people can hone their skills and re-establish their mental peace in order to go back out into the world around them (it is a part of the process of acquiring an ideology). They get enough training for the world of work in the world of academia. What we offer young people is something to belong to apart from their family where they are accepted on their own merits unconditionally (a covenantal relationship). This is true of all sections. Program sections in this venue have an opportunity to meet a developmental need that is not normally met in other activities. That is to teach young people how to succeed in a collective endeavour without losing their individuality. In the co-ed sections, we teach kids to see each other as people first and as male and female second. It is only when young adults have absorbed these skills and values

among others that they can then address such issues as social justice and work. We should focus on what we can offer young adults that is unique to Scouting.

7 Recommendations

While we don't disagree with the tack that is taken in items 1-5 (p.39), there are certain concerns that arise, from our perspective:

7.1 No where in this review are the developmental needs of either the 18-21 or older age group clearly spelled out which makes a serious analysis difficult.

7.2 The proposed new structure does speak to the many problems identified with the existing program although this is not always spelled out.

7.3 There is a very real possibility of sacrificing the mentor effect.

7.4 There is no clear mechanism or intent through which, that which is valuable about, the current situation can be salvaged.

7.5 It is very important that both new programs take off at the same time in order to minimize alienation.

7.6 Nowhere was the possibility of changing the upper age limit for Venturers given serious consideration.

8 Concluding Comments

8.1 As a crew, we would be prepared to work with the National Program Committee on the development of a program for young adults, i.e. 21+ and in general concur with the thrust of the draft report. In any of our comments where items of value have been identified, a concern would be addressed assuming that such ideas could find a place in either the 21+ program or the 18-21 program.

8.2 Some of us feel that Rovering has a disproportionate (to its' membership) beneficial effect on Scouting as a whole in that a large proportion of the permanent and/or long-term leader cadre is made up of Rovers (for the benefit of those that don't believe that "once a Rover, always a Rover"). A young person who has been involved in Rovers to any great degree has usually adopted the Principles of Scouting as a way of life and is likely to remain active when possible and otherwise supportive of the Movement. We appreciate that it would be difficult to document this but feel strongly that this in fact the case.

1st Waterloo Rovers - Jim Gerrard, Dave Gerrard, Trevor Oakley, Steve Conrad, Chris Oakley, Lee Ann Madill

Advisor - E. Rod Smith

Footnotes:

1 Rovering to Success

2 Erickson, Eric. *Identity and the Life Cycle*, Chapter II; "The Healthy Personality", pp. 94-107. Horton and Co., New York, NY. 1959.

3. There is not time and space to expand on the value of the knighthood here, but perhaps the most succinctly effective text can found in Ernest Becker's Pulitzer Prize winning treatise on society, *The Denial of Death*: 'Kierkegaard has his own formula for what it means to be a man. This figure is the man who lives in faith, who has given over the meaning of life to his Creator, and who lives centered on the energies of his Maker. He accepts whatever happens in this visible dimension without complaint, lives his life as a duty, faces his death without a qualm. No pettiness is petty that it threatens his meanings; no task is too frightening to be beyond his courage. He is fully in the world on its terms and wholly beyond the world in his trust in the invisible dimension. It is very much the old Pietistic ideal that was lived by Kant's parents. The great strength of such an ideal is that it allow one to be open, generous, courageous, to touch others' lives and enrich them and open them in turn. As the knight of faith has no fear-of-life-and-death trip to lay onto other, he does not cause them to shrink back upon themselves, he does not coerce or manipulate them. The knight of faith, then, represents what we might call an ideal of mental health, the continuing openness of life out of the death throes of dread. Put in these abstract terms the ideal knight of faith is surely one of the most beautiful and challenging ideals ever put forth by man. ...One cannot give the gifts of the knight of faith without first being dubbed a knight by some Higher Majesty.'

4. Tillich, Paul. *The Courage to Be*, Chapters 4-6. Yale University Press, London, UK. 1952

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September 1, 1994

Don Sitrer
Rovering Magazine

Dear Don Sitrer:

Re: Discovery of the Future, my letter to the Provincial Commissioner

My name is Craig Armstrong and I joined Beavers when I was 6. Eighteen years later I am still in Scouting as a Rover, a Venturer Advisor, and ADC Venturers/Rovers for Lake Muskoka District. Scouting has been very good to me. I has/is a major influence on who I am and how I act. I feel that the ideals, the aims and principles of Scouting are very valid and much needed in today's society, maybe more than ever as parents increasingly retreat from the task of instilling values in their children.

I have been involved in leadership since I started helping our Beaver colony as a Scout in 1981 and progressed through several stages to my present status as Venturer Advisor. I have thought that I will always be involved in Scouting in some capacity until I die. No organization can be perfect and I would never hold Scouting to that. All organizations struggle to balance tradition with progress, client service with necessary infrastructure, volunteers with paid staff. In an interview I had last year for a position as a paid Scouter, Scouting was described as a rear drive vehicle, driven by the volunteers and supported by the infrastructure, usually paid. At the time I thought that this analogy was a good one and describes the way Scouting should be. Increasingly I have found this analogy to be false. In many cases Scouting is a front drive vehicle, with the infrastructure partially dictating what will happen. Consultation and communication with the volunteers seems to be lacking, yet they are the ones that put the aim and principles of Scouting into action. Without them and the youth there is no Scouting, nor is there any point to it. One example is the change of uniform. It was a good idea to have the uniform, uniform, but no one I know, thought that the colour choice was the right one and I know of no consultation on this point. It just arrived. There are other examples but in my case the one that has broke the proverbial camel's back and the one that has me rethinking my involvement in Scouting, is this document entitled *Discovery of the Future*.

First, this document was supposed to be distributed to all Crews. My Crew, which has been in existence since 1988 with the same contact people, did not receive a copy, nor did the ADC Venturers/Rovers, District Commissioner, or District President. I discovered this document in *Rovering Magazine* and also discovered that we must respond by September 5, 1994, less than a month after getting my copy of *Rovering Magazine*. Our Crew does not meet often in the summer and it will be awkward to get a Crew response in time, hence this letter in its current form.

Second, I feel that many of my concerns are expressed by K.R. "Smoke" Blacklock's letter "In Response to *Discovery of the Future*" printed in the same *Rovering Magazine* (August 1994, pp 35-39). One large concern I have is that if Rovers were given 10 years to 'prove' themselves, why is this document out now with a time line to eliminate Rovers in 1999, when 10 years after 1990 is 2000? I feel that this process had been created to hang the Rover section out to dry. It really seems as though the demise of the Rover section was decided a long time ago and this process is merely window dressing. I don't see the Rover section as having failed, perhaps unsupported and left to wither, but it has not failed. If there is any failure involved in the current Rover program it is that of National for not supporting it. Apparently it is perceived that Rovers exist for no other reason but a social club where young adults gather to drink and have fun. I do not see this happening. If this is the perception then it is National's responsibility to find out if the perception is justified and if so how big it is. If the perception is true and this is decided, by the rear wheels, to be bad then something needs to be done. I have not seen any proof that what is perceived exists, and if it

doesn't exist then National needs to do some P.R. to correct the perception as it damages all of Scouting.

Third, the program for the new, as yet unnamed, section is poorly thought out. It is neither practical nor attractive to potential youth. As a former youth of that age group I would not have been interested in a program such as the one proposed. In fact I probably would not be in Scouting now since that was a busy time in my life and the program would have frustrated and turned me off. However, I do believe that there are some excellent ideas that could be used to modify the current Rover program (see the above mentioned letter in *Rovering Magazine*).

To state that I am frustrated and disappointed with both the process and conclusion of *Discovery of the Future* would be mild. The bottom line in Scouting is "does it better serve the youth" which could be asked at every decision made within the movement. I feel that this proposed solution would not serve the youth better and would do them all a disservice. This has been a general overview, a specific critique would require a more detailed report to work from and would kill too many trees. I look forward to your response.

Yours in Rovering,

Craig Armstrong,
-ADC Venturers/Rovers, Lake Muskoka District,
-First Mate, Lake Muskoka District "Kenozh" Sea Rover Crew

cc.
Provincial Commissioner
National Commissioner
ORRT
Rovering Magazine
Leader Magazine

Dear Don:

I just received the August *Rovering Magazine* and was impressed and agree with Mr. K.R. "Smoke" Blacklock. Last week I sent in my report (copy enclosed) to Toronto. I was late in receiving a copy of the report. If enough Rovers submit their thoughts on the report, *Discovery of the Future*, I believe we can make great headway in a new and suitable programme, with some of the traditional parts of Rovering, with the society of today. It is very important that we keep in close contact with Judith Evans, P. C. for Ontario, to make sure our ideas are submitted to the National Programme Committee and not just their submission of the *Discovery of the Future*.

Keep on Rovering:

Harold Detlor
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Box 44 Gp. 6 RR #1
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L2E 6S4

RE: Discovery of the Future

There is a need for the Rover Program to be updated with the times. The following are my thoughts on the draft report *Discovery of the Future*, March '94.

Rovering in this country has deep roots over a long period of time. The name 'Rovers' should not be changed as the new program can be built around the 'Rovering' theme. The 'Social and Service' elements of Rovering are two important components which young adults achieve through Rovering, and these two elements should work hand-in-hand.

I believe that the Rovering program should be aimed at the 18-23 age group. I feel a lot of young adults age 21 still need to belong to an organization to continue their training and self-development. I believe that staying in Rovering until age 23 will fill this need for these young adults, and that they will not just be 'dropped' from the Scouting Movement while there is still a need for the less confident, less self-assured, young adult to belong to an organization. At the age of 23 the member would then fall under the mandate of the adult volunteer.

The program emphases as set out will combine the social, personal development, and service aspects of Scouting and Rovering.

Motto

The motto is very important and the word service should be added 'Achievement Through Action and Service'. This promotes individual achievement and community service. (Program emphasis-- contributing positively to community need and the environment -- Service).

Promise

I do not believe 'promising' is a dilemma or obstacle that we have artificially created within our Canadian mosaic. The different cultures in Canada should have no objections to 'promising' to uphold the values of an organization in Canada which they want to be a member of, as this is part of being a Canadian, a part of which we should preserve. The word 'committing' should not be used in place of 'promise'. Scouts, Ventures, and their adult leaders all use 'I Promise'. Why can Scouts, Ventures, and leaders make the 'Promise' while Rovers only want to 'commit'. They should be able to promise in accordance with the other sections of Scouting. The new promise should follow more closely to the other sections of Scouting.

I promise to the best of my ability to:

- serve God to my spiritual beliefs
- develop my personal skills
- support my group, community, and country
- and to carry out the spirit of the Scout Law.

All Scouts, Ventures, and leaders make their promise to God first. This should be first in the Rover promise, not last, as proposed. Although all sections use 'On My Honour' to start the promise this is not a prerequisite for the Rover promise. The proposed 'New Promise' is vastly different from all other sections of Scouting and should be made to reflect more closely with the community of Scouting.

Contemporary Program Specifications

Phase One - Membership Stage

(i) Age should be 18 to 23

- 18 -23 for offices only

(ii) Introductory Consultations -- Who

-assesses skills - in what?

-knowledge - in what?

These are very vague. I would like further information on these aspects so I can comment in greater detail.

(iii) Commit and Document

-training - what kind?

-requirements of membership

Does each crew set their own or will all be the same?

If so, what will they be?

(iv) Contract Ceremony - What is meant by this?

-will one be set down or will each crew draw up their own?

(v) Core Program

-one year

Phase Two - Intermediate Development Stage

-year two

Phase Three - Advanced Development Stage

-year three

Are there going to be set standards in each classification and books and resources made available? The new program outlines a total of 10 different subjects for the rover to complete. The young adult attending school and / or working may not be able to complete these 10 courses within the three year 18-21 Rovering period. Extending the age limit to 23 would allow extra time for the young adult trying to meet educational and employment demands to complete the 10 courses outlined in the new Rovering program.

The Investiture

This is very important to me. Here is a young adult going to make a promise, and it should be very meaningful. The traditional knighthood investiture can be a base for this ceremony. It can be revised to present day society. This will keep some of the tradition in Rovering as we should not drop it completely as suggested in the new Rover Program.

I believe the Vigil part of a Rover Investiture can be

very important in the young adult of today. They can look at their life up to that point and think of what they want to do in the future. They are at the age where this might be his/her first thoughts of life as a whole, and the Vigil portion of the Investiture could consist of:

- 1) Am I making the best use of the life that God has given me?
- 2) Am I doing nothing with my life? Am I wasting it?
- 3) Have I set goals for myself? Am I trying my best to achieve these goals?
- 4) Can I offer some of my time in helping other people?
- 5) How can I make myself a better person and citizen?

The ceremony can be a very important part in the youth's life and he/she could be making his/her first promise as a young adult. This should be a very serious promise. The Investiture can be set indoors or outdoors but in a very meaningful place.

The Ceremony

Standing in front of the altar set with a box containing a rock and sand, a bible, a candle, and a thumb stick, the advisor congratulates him/her upon the step he/she is taking and says,

"You see that we have a bible, a lighted candle and a covered box. The Bible is God's book. We as Scouts consider the Bible a guide to true Christianity. The Bible is open at the 20th Chapter of Exodus, verses 1-17, wherein are written the Ten Commandments which form the basis of our Scout Law. The lighted candle represents our spiritual life. The box containing sand and rock represents Matthew Chapter 7 verses 24-27. Take this parable and build your life on solid rock."

One rover lowers the Rover flag and the crew recruit and advisor grasp the flag with their left hands and Scout sign and repeat the Rover Promise. The group neckerchief can be placed on him/her at this point.

The chairman presents the thumb stick with these words, "This thumb stick is to assist you over the rough places in your life. Note that it has two prongs similar to the two paths which confront you in your lifetime of temptation. Baden Powell says, "it is up to you to paddle your own canoe through life." Therefore in times of temptation, we expect you to take the right course even though it may be the most difficult.

The advisor shakes hands with the newly invested Rover saying, "Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast to that which is good, render no man evil for evil: strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honour all men, fear no man as long as your conscience is clear."

The Lord's Prayer can be used to close the Investiture.

We must not forget that a proper, serious, Investiture

is long remembered by the person invested.

Note: The Rover Flag is used in the investiture as it is in the Scout and Venture Investiture ceremonies. There is no reason to change the Rover Flag.

Nomenclature

Chairman - to replace 'Mate', not Co-ordinator as suggested.

Secretary - replacing 'Scribe'

Treasurer - replacing 'Keeper of the Purse'

Co-ordinator - replace Chair - as suggested. He/she is in charge of a specific project.

Facilitator - educational co-ordinator - I need more input on this to make a comment.

Advisor - I see no reason to change 'Advisor' to 'Consultant'. I feel this is being done only to go along with the new program.

Uniform

Scouts Canada is a uniform organization. I see no need to change the epaulette colour in Rovers. Red had been the colour of Rovering from its beginnings. This colour does not have to change just because some of the program is being updated. When changes were made in 1968 to the Scouting program, there were no changes made in the 'Scout' colour.

Additional Thoughts

The Rover Motto of Service should continue to be a part of the Rover Program. It can be combined with the self-development of the person - service to Scouting and the community. This does not mean to be only security at camps, etc., but, to help out the other sections where some Rovers now serve as leaders.

I agree that some individuals are hang-on Rovers. However, I feel that this will drop-off when the new program is implemented. I do not believe that these 'hang-on' Rovers are in the majority. There are many adult Rovers who are dedicated to Rovering by dedication to further improving their lives by service to the community and to self-development. The new program can and should be involved with parts of what is now Rovering.

A Rover 'service corps' as suggested should not even be considered. When someone leaves Rovering and wants to continue in the Scouting Movement, he or she can use all the knowledge they have acquired and put it to use by becoming a leader in some other section of Scouting which they feel they would enjoy, and in this way they would be giving something back to this great Movement.

Summary

Upon studying the report 'Discovery of the Future' it is my impression that they want to eliminate Rovers and replace it with something new.

I believe a new approach is needed in this section, but,

it should be combined with what Rovering has done in the past for our youth.

There is no need or reason for changing the name of 'Rovers' for the sake of change, or because of a need for a new approach in the program.

With the implementation of a new approach to the Rovering Program, the old 'hangers-on' will leave and Rovers will again become an important part of Scouting in this country.

I have been in the Scouting Movement from boyhood. I have been a Scout leader, Rover Advisor, and District Commissioner. I have seen many changes 'Scouts '68', 'Beavers and Ventures'; and the continuing updates to programs. Rovers can be a great part of Scouting without the change of the name.

Dear Don:

I hope this gets to you soon enough to use. It took me quite a while to get through and digest the report (not to mention my need to procrastinate).

I notice quite early that the report is one sided. The title alone, *Discovery of the Future*, leaves little room for the past to shine through. I hope I can get my points across clearly enough for you to use.

First, the report talks about the lack of organization within the Rover Movement; no set requirements for the Rambler Badge, or set requirements across the board or country. The way I had approached it, is each Rover group worked very independently. Starting at the Venturer level, the boy in the troop would organize their own areas of interest with the leader working for the boy as an official between him and the next level. Then as they become older, the job of the leader lessens and again each Rover Company works even more independently.

The next issue is age. They see no reason for the existing age group, yet if you take a deeper look there is reason for it. Their proposed age group of 18 - 21 is too short due to the fact that most of today's kids are just entering or, with luck, graduating post secondary school. Many of them will be moving away from home or have jobs that take up their time. The experience of the youth of the early part of the century does not apply to today. An 18-year-old guy in the 1930's, 40's, 50's and even the 60's had already, often, worked for a couple of employers. Youth today wonders if he will be employed at all. The added experience of a 26-year-old guy might be able to guide someone 18 or 21 in just the right direction. As well I know I still learn from many of the young people I see each and every time we are able to get together. The age span is far and wide with people just going to school to people married with children. Where else do you see 15 year olds and 30+ crowd treating each other as equals?

Part number 3 is the argument of cost. They say Rovering cost \$73,010 per year. I'm totally surprised at this and have no clue where that money goes, through all the years I've been a Rover. I've seen no expenses that Rovers don't pay themselves.

I hope the powers-that-be won't change Rovering, but, if this report is any indication, they seem to have already made up their minds. I wish I had had notice or had seen one of the surveys or got to be involved in one of the discussions. I can never express how much being involved in Rovering or the Scouting movement, has meant or does mean to me. I have met people who are important to my life, as well as friends, I know I can count on at anytime.

I hope you can find something useful with this letter and I hope to be able to continue this discussion further.

Yours in Scouting & Rovering

John W. Lammers
1133 Melsandra Ave.,
London, On., N5Y 4N8
(519) 433-4176

"By Rovering I don't mean aimless wandering, I mean finding your way by pleasant paths with a definite object in view." - Baden Powell

July 19th, 1993

Scouts Canada - Provincial Council for Ontario
9 Jackes Avenue
Toronto ON M4T 1E2
☎(416) 923-2461
☎(416) 923-1330 fax

Attn: Judith Evans
Provincial Commissioner

RE: *Discovery of the Future*??

Dear Judith:

My name is Chris Henderson, and on June 15th I was installed as London's Assistant Regional Commissioner for the Rover Section. My involvements within Scouting have been multi faceted over the past 15 years, primarily at the Venturer and Rover levels, spanning varied time lines and at varied levels, from the front lines to National events.

I take exception to four areas within the *Discovery of the Future* document; which since first reading it on July 12th, I have:

I. provided copies of said document plus a

letter encouraging written comment (to your attention) to London's existing and potential Rover Crews, plus London's ARC Venturers, RC and RFE.

2. placed an attention notice in the August edition of Rovering Magazine requesting that people read this document and provide written comment to their respective Provincial Commissioner.

To provide you with "ease of use" documents to which you can refer, I have attached four appendices regarding each of the areas with which I believe exception should be taken within said document:

Appendix	Section Description
1	Program Assessment - Issue identification
2	Program Assessment - Interest Survey
3	Program Assessment - Correspondence, Discussion and Feedback
4	Recommendations

In conclusion, I think the direction provided in this letter's masthead bears reviewing!

This quotation is also on page 36 of the Discovery of the Future, bearing witness to the fact that we are all here for the program membership whether at a variable or constant level.

Thank you.
Keep on Rovering,

C.J.(Chris) Henderson
ARC Rovers - London Regional Council

cc: London Regional Council
Stewart Small VA - 20th Venturer
Company
Lynch Residence VA - 22nd Venturer
Company
Puchula Residence VA - 26th Venturer
Company
Jeff Parker RA - 68th "B" Rover Crew
Jeff Mitchell RA - 73rd Rover Crew
Frank McGuigan ARC Venturers
Chuck Lawrence Regional Commissioner
Sarah Ransome Regional Field Executive
Jim Georgeff Executive Director

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Executive Director

: Parties mentioned in this document
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74 Cavalier DR. Lower
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Don Sitrer Editor - Rovering
Magazine
45 Islington Ave. Kitchener
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Discovery of the Future: Exception Identification
per C.J.(Chris) Henderson
Arc Rovers - London Regional
Council

Appendix 1 Page Reference 7 Program Assessment: Issue Identification

There were many areas of the present Rover program which were viewed as being very problematic. Some of the issues with were:

■ the stagnant membership growth;

I you allow a program to falter, with limited support, coaching, counselling and/or documented 'how to' skills ,, the program will almost certainly die!

At present I am putting together the ' how to' reference document So you want to become a Rover?! based on the pamphlets Rover Vigils (Scouts Canada 1947), and rover quests in Practice (Scouts England 1930); I have plans of putting together a second document in this series entitled So you want to form a Rover Crew?!

Why go to all this trouble? By making it available, it will aid growth!
This is best illustrated, per:

1. it will help when talking/working with the 3 Venturer Companies in London Region who, per last year's registration ages and per their already expression of interest, have the potential to form Rover Crews in 94/95.

2. it will help when talking/working with the Ranger Companies who have the same potentials (I have already initiated correspondence with the 4 Senior Branch Advisors within Guiding in London Region (Trillium Area) asking them for said identifications).

3. it will help London's existing 3 crews by providing additional direction.

Per a commitment that I made (in October 1993) to Don Sitrer (Editor of Rovering Magazine), this document will be included in upcoming editions of Rovering Magazine to provide information (and possible direction) to others interested in Rovers.

To assist in growth this coming fiscal, advertisements will be placed in London's university (U.W.O.) and college (Fanshawe) student newspapers!

■ the perception that Rovers functioned primarily as a social fraternity with very little emphasis placed on pursuing Scouting's mission in consort with an educational component;

An excellent identification, especially if you were examining the crew that I am the Advisor to, namely the 68th 'A' London Rover Crew.

Mind you ... it is always prudent and wise to examine the why's behind any identification! (please refer to the next item for more details).

■ The traditional knighthood theme did not reflect what was currently happening in society and therefore was not appealing to the vast majority of present day young adults;

Let us not "throw the baby out with the bathwater"!

Baden Powell's intent was for the Rover to be instilled with the values of the traditional Knighthood theme; viz. - the journey of quests from Esquire to Knight; and it is these values that reflects what is currently happening in some parts of society.

With regards to and therefore was not appealing to the vast majority of present day young adults ... I find this statement very judgemental (and subsequently perceived as fact by the reader). It would be interesting to find out how the document's creators justify the use of this remark!

■ the reality (supported by the research literature) that developmental homogeneity was difficult to find in this age group and by extrapolation within the Rover membership across the country. One consequence of this finding was that there is no clear rationale for the existing 18-26 age range;

If the developmental homogeneity (the state of being composed of similar parts) was *easy to find* in this age group, I would express *greater concern*.

In the Venturer program, Companies typically become "closed" to new membership because of the high need to be able to learn to work with peer (ie. a 17 year old who works, drives a car and has a steady boy/girl friend does not typically work well with a 14 year old who receives an allowance, rides a bike and dreams of having a steady boy/girl friend).

In the Rover program, as it is in life, Crews learn to become "open" to new membership because of the high needs to be able to learn to work with everyone! (ie. the mature 26 year

old must learn to work with the immature 18 year old, even when they fail to realize that they were once that immature 18 year old).

■ the widespread perception that the role of a Rover Advisor was nebulous at best,

It would be interesting to find out how the document's creators justify using widespread perception, because this is very judgemental (and subsequently perceived as fact by the reader).

I do not consider my role as either hazy, vague or confused; especially when you realize that I am on annual contract with the 68th "A" London Rover Crew.

The fact that I no longer use Psychology 101 on the crew membership (as I did on the company membership), or that there is no longer the difference in me being a working professional and them being a student, or ... marriage, families, dedication ... as a Rover Advisor I must learn to work, communicate, teach, et cetera ... on a peer-to-peer level!

The phrase that comes to mind is: *When I was 16, my father new nothing ... by the time I had turned 21, I was amazed by how much he had learned!*

■ most importantly, the pervasive belief amongst those involved in various capacities within Scouting that a strong organizational commitment to Rovers was lacking.

In 1967, there was Cubs, Scouts and Rovers. In the past 27 years, a lot of time, money and effort (not withstanding any of my own) has been dedicated to improving our market share by providing a greater breadth of programs.

In today's "throw away" society I believe that identifying this as an issue on which to base this document's proposals informs corporations and individuals (Scouters and non-Scouters) the wrong message, viz. -- Scouting only spends time, money and effort on those programs that can provide the biggest payback for what was spent.

IN CONCLUSION:

Some of the issues struggled with suggest to the reader that no matter the consequence of the identification of these issues ... these are but *some* of the issues.

The information within Issues Identification uses generalizations that leads the uninformed reader into accepting them as fact!

Discovery of the Future: Exception Identification

per C.J. (Chris) Henderson
ARC Rovers - London

Regional Council

Program Assessment:

Interest Survey

■ There is considerable disappointment with the number of Rovers who responded (33%), and this disappointment was magnified even further with the 16% response rate of Venturers. In all, 97 of 400 questionnaires (25%) were returned.

Per the Ontario Provincial Annual Report (published in the April 1994 edition of Provincial Notes) the number of Rovers in 92/93 (the fiscal year of said questionnaire) was 925, the number of Venturers was 2,883. This translates into a sampling of only 5% of Rovers and 1.7% of Venturers... not a very serious effort when the balance of an existing program is at stake.

I just finished a two year task of working on London Region's Training Camping Needs Assessment Committee; wherein, we surveyed all adult membership within our Region. Our rate of return was in the single digits, yet higher than what survey professionals state is an average rate of return.

In speaking with a past Venturer Advisor whose company received said questionnaire, I was informed that the questions and flow were too much for them to handle, partially because they failed to understand the impetus.

IN CONCLUSION:

I realize the difference between surveying individuals and groups of same (eg. Rovers -- Rover Crews), but this report uses sweeping generalizations that leads the reader into accepting them as fact!

The incorporation of the phrase considerable disappointment in the same sentence to describe Rovers leads the reader into associating these two phrases as being synonymous with each other.

Discovery of the Future: Exception Identification
per C.J.(Chris) Henderson
Arc Rovers - London Regional

Council

Appendix 3 Page Reference 17
Program Assessment:

Correspondence, Discussion and Feedback

■ The group that seems the most disenfranchised with the suggestion to change are a small, but vocal, group of Rover Advisors.

Disenfranchised? Yes, especially when we perceive that something we now dedicate our lives to is being taken away from us!

Suggestion of Change? Who are the creators of this document trying to whitewash ... their proposals are not simple suggestions of change.

Small? Does this refer to 6 Rover Advisors or to 6%?

Vocal? Yes we are "inclined to talk freely" especially since we work with an age group that demands it.

IN CONCLUSION:

I am unsure of what the creators of this document are afraid of, but afraid they must be if they must resort to generalizations such as this one to try to discredit a small, but vocal, group of Advisors.

Note: the term "correspondence" implies two way communication; the letter that I sent to John Peach on August 13th, 1993 providing feedback to the update article in the May 1993 Leader Magazine was never replied to!

Discovery of the Future: Exception Identification
per C.J.(Chris) Henderson
Arc Rovers - London Regional

Council

Appendix 4 Page Reference 39
Recommendations

A Vision of the Future (November 1990) is one side of the arc of a swinging pendulum,
Discovery of the Future is on the other side of the arc...the middle ground shows no footsteps!

My recommendations are that:

1. The recommendations in Discovery of the Future not be accepted.
2. The present membership of the Contemporary Rover Program Development Task Group be *heartily thanked* for their contributions and then released to work on other projects.
3. A new committee be formed, based in Ontario (re: 4(e)); in 89/90 Ontario had 834 (per Ontario's Provincial Annual Report) of the 1,600 (per page 3 of the Discovery document) of registered Rovers in Canada.
4. Guidelines be put into place for this new committee, such as:
 - a. reports must be based on facts, not generalizations
 - b. committee membership must include at least 60% of currently registered youth/adults from the respective section.
 - c. progressional updates (not perceived intent) and committee incurred costs be published on a frequent basis in periodicals known to be available to the respective section membership.
 - d. surveys, if undertaken, be sent to a minimum of 25% of the respective section membership
 - e. the committee thrust be indicative of the location of the greatest membership (this would ensure the best deployment of time, energy and

monetary resources)

5. The mandate of this new committee would be to take the best of Baden Powell's ideas and combine them with the best of the A Vision of the Future and Discovery of the Future (*) documents, to achieve the middle ground.

6. The time-line of this new committee would be to have its final report ready by either September 1996 or 1997, with full operational implementation to be achieved no more than 2 years after acceptance of the final report.

(*) the high level of excellence within ideas cannot be ignored by this new committee!

How Much is Enough?

In Defence of the Current Rover Program

In *Discovery of the Future*, Scouts Canada put forward the idea of a new Rover program that accomplishes "extraordinary results which defy conventional analysis or prediction". The 5th Waterloo Rovers and I would argue that Scouts Canada's proposals are misguided because they have not even used the full range of conventional analyses available. We also feel that the desire for more of an educational component in Rovers will not be met by the proposed system.

To begin with, the D.O.T.F. manual mentions a few times that it used anecdotal research. Anecdotal research is limited to qualitative rather than quantitative analysis. The mood of the booklet suggested that most of the anecdotes or examples had been negative. It should be pointed out, however, that negative anecdotes can be found from any system and the current system deserves at least a more systematic study. The Interest Survey is a good idea, but is a bad idea to make the future of this huge program dependent on 97 responses. The low response rate is not, of course, the fault of Scouts Canada, but regardless of who's responsibility returning the questionnaires is, decisions should not be made until enough responses from the Interest Survey and the survey distributed at CJ 93 are tabulated. My own memory of the CJ 93 survey is not detailed, but I remember reporting a very positive feeling about the program. I also challenge the statement that: "The group that seems the most disenfranchised with the suggestion of change are a small, but vocal, group of rover Advisors. The means of opposition to the proposed changes have been made through the regional meetings with very few Advisors acting as representative from their groups."

In the "Background" section of the booklet, there is the implication that most Rovers knew about this conference in Kananaskis and the commitment to meeting developmental needs. When my group (5th Waterloo) formed in 1991, we were informed soon enough that the Rover program was under review for possible termination, but we were told over and over, sometimes by a representative from

Scouts Canada, that our weakness was public image and lack of service. The D.O.T.F. booklet downplays the service element as unimportant and brings us the personal development problem form out of the blue. When the report says that, in the area of personal development, "Rovering is entitled to failing grades, a situation of long standing despite the efforts of many over the years", it ignores the fact that the challenge (of personal development, not service was introduced to us one or two months ago. Rovers and Rovering are entitled to more time to accommodate this shift in focus. If the object is changed five years into the ten-year trial period, it stands to reason that Rovers be given an extra five years to prove themselves.

Another concern is the proposed change of age range. To begin with, it is not true that someone in rovers now will not be in the program when the proposed changes are made as the report suggests. In fact, with Rover Moots, a lot of help comes from those who have run the Moots for longer than is possible for even the current wide age range. Restriction of the age range to three year could cripple any annual event. Secondly, even if it were true that we would not be Rovers once the proposed changes occur, that would not mean we would not care what happens to the program. How does one forget something one has been voluntarily doing for eight years? What does make Rover lose heart are attitudes like: "Any effort expended in this area (of the traditional program) would, over time, prove fruitless," coming from those in power over us.

As to the proposed changes themselves, workshops on interviews and problem solving skills and such are certainly in demand by young adults and employers alike. If Scouts Canada has workshops on these topics available, I can see real interest from my group. However, the effectiveness of the workshops is all but ruined by the restriction of the age range to three years. The 18-21 range would allow training for those going for jobs straight from high school, but here are plenty of Rovers in long college or university programs who could take advantage of a 22-26 range because they are not seeking employment immediately. The same situation applies to any other sort of personal development. If a member of Rovers wants to develop him or herself in a way other members of his or her group do not, this particular Rover would be at ease with other Rovers who share this particular hobby be they 18, 28, or 38.

In fact, I do not believe that the areas of personal development that Scouts Canada wishes to focus on are so badly served by the current program. There would be a problem if fun activities, service activities, and personal development activities were all separate, but they are not. The activities that Rovers run regularly are good training in communication, problem-solving and organizational skills. A program focussing on classroom-style seminars would attract people who work well in that environment, but it may well scare off those who like the outdoors and smaller groups of people. The proposed Rover program does not extend logically from those in the current Venturer program who are among Rovering's most valued assets.

This brings me to the final point of the argument. The D.O.T.F. booklet closes by saying that while youth are concerned with anger, crime, injustice, and unemployment in the world, an organization run almost entirely by these youth is not addressing effectively these concerns. Consider this, though: we have had economists for centuries and we still have unemployment. We have had legal systems for centuries and we still have crime and injustice. We have had psychologists for centuries and we still have anger. Society has not taken this as an indication that economics, law and psychology are bogus practices. Rovers have tried to tell Scouts Canada about their dealings with these issues and Scouts Canada has said we have not done enough, but if we have not done enough to address problems within our spheres of influence then we should be told just how much change we should make, how Scouts Canada knows we have not made that change already (how do we know things wouldn't be worse if we weren't around), and how a program that lessens emphasis on service helps matters.

Yours Sincerely,

Simon A. Thompson



It is my intention in writing this column to provide a commentary on the state and progress of Canadian Rovering. I welcome comments on what I write, but ask (not unreasonably) that they be constructive; they may be directed to Rovering Magazine.

So here we are, Canadian Rovers, in the somewhat unique position of having had a national moot organized and held at the provincial level to circumvent national's stonewalling. Those who were at the Moot, and specifically at the ORRT meeting held on 3 Sept., will attest that a new spirit of Rovering might be trying to take hold in Canada. This is a spirit of self-help, self-reliance, and self-support.

Rather than whining about how badly National treats us, and how many troubles our section has, we should direct

those energies into improving our own situation. I would call your attention to Luke 6: 41-42. Consider those verses in this light: accepting that National has set a trend of behaviour towards Rovering which would see changes many of us do not look forward to, and further realizing that no magic cure is going to suddenly appear, who will help Canadian Rovering? The answer to that question is simple. Canadian Rovering will.

To continue in the same vein, I'd like to tell you about my new boss. He is a very aggressive, gung-ho type of person. When he was first in his new position, I made the mistake of going to him with a problem. He asked: "Fine. What are YOU going to do about it?" My mistake had been to go to him without a solution to my problem for him to approve. Are we doing the same thing with National?

So let's talk solutions. Well, communications would be a good start. It has been suggested in my hearing that we establish a National Rovering phone book, listed not by Crew, but by Rover. This is an excellent idea, how about a Rover census to get accurate membership figures too? To get to these things we have to establish communication. Here in Nova Scotia, we have considerable room for improvement at the provincial level, and I suspect we are not alone in this.

At the same time however, we need communication between provincial Round Tables. I am personally aware of RT's in N.S., Quebec, Ontario, Alberta, and B.C./Yukon. (I would love to hear there are more.) It has been suggested that these Round Tables regularly exchange minutes. This would be a good start, but there has to be a purpose to it, are we going to follow up on initiatives started in another province?

I have to suggest that an exchange of minutes is merely a starting point. There has been discussion of establishing a National Rover Round Table. This would be the natural outgrowth of communication between provincial Round Tables.

In its first year, such a body could exist through conference calls, fax lines and electronic mail. Maybe 8-10 months after its inception a face to face meeting could be held, after that, annual meetings could begin. Rather than immediately establishing a Constitution, a Mission Statement could be agreed on, and its existence proclaimed to all Canadian Rovers. At this stage, the easiest route would be to use a delegate from each Provincial RT, at least until a Constitution of some description is established.

Hopefully you can now see that with a little effort and commitment, this could happen. I don't see why steps cannot be taken to begin a NRRT by 1995. If you think it is a good idea, push for it in your province. We can, and we must do it.

In closing, I would like to explain the title of this column. I derived it from a toast traditionally given at a Naval mess dinner. The toast is: "Ourselves." and the quip expected of the youngest member is: "as no-one else will bother." Think about it.

Service, B.J. Trim



SERVICE: Members crews of North Waterloo Round Table shingle the Everton Scout Camp's Warden's Home

Niagara Falls

NIAGARA FALLS, CANADA

20 PAGES

10 CENTS

NIAGARA CONQUERED BY DARING ROVERS

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Today as thousands of tourists stood at the edge of the falls, unidentified rovers Conquered Niagara

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most widely known. No fewer than five
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Copyright 1994, Dan McLean Jr.

Hi, and welcome to the Campfire Musicians Workshop. I had originally designed this as a half-day workshop for Eh! Canadian Provincial Moot - Rovering Sea to Sea, But I hope it will also make a good contribution to Rovering Magazine.

Some of you who've gone to moots during any of the last 16 years will know me, at least to see me. From '78 to '93, I was a member of the 1st. Dorchester Co-Ed Rovers, a crew which is still, very much alive & kicking (now without "co-ed" designation). They're already (in their 2nd year as Rovers) running a moot and becoming somewhat legendary for their service to Scouting and the community. The older three of us, along with some other former crew members and a couple of stray dogs, formed the 43rd Canadian BP Guild (at large) in 1993. Four of our Guild members (including myself) are campfire musicians, and we get to play together at least twice a year - an unbelievable feat, given our family, scholastic and professional commitments. Between us, we've managed to host a couple of hundred campfires - some good/some not so good. We've learned a lot, and now I hope to pass a lot of our experience on to all you budding or experienced campfire musicians.

This workshop is intended to help you, as a campfire musician, to be a vital part of a *casual* campfire program. In my eyes, *formal* campfires are more planned, primarily containing traditional, "public domain" songs, and programmed according to a proven schedule and format. This is where you'll hear familiar cheers and action songs, and where you'll see uniforms and badge-covered campfire blankets. A number of books on formal campfires are

available at your local Scout Shop, so I won't talk too much about this style. Also, I don't think I need to extol the virtues of the formal campfire, since we've all participated in and enjoyed many of them.

A *casual* campfire is the sort of thing which allows people to come and go without feeling they missed something integral and without feeling like they're disrupting things. Casual campfires usually contain popular songs from the radio, and the audience is not as likely to sing aloud, although they often do. The casual campfire is often a good choice for Rover Moots, since the come and go option allows people to float between the campfire, the dance, and any other events which may be concurrent.

In this continuing article, I'll be covering musical and practical concerns. We'll touch on how to assemble and maintain your songbook, how to find and "lift" songs, how to change keys, how to keep from losing your voice, how to care for your guitar, what you should take to the campfire, why you should avoid "questionable material, and more.

Unfortunately, because of copyright and publishing laws, I can't print musical examples from copyrighted songs, so, I'll have to use "public domain" songs, or those which I have written or co-written.

Well, I suppose this is enough of an introduction, so, next issue we'll get into things full speed.

Yours in Scouting,

Dan McLean Jr.

43rd Canadian Bp Guild (at large)
Quando Omni Flunkus Moritati



*Baden-Powell Scouts
invite you to join them
for their first
International Rover Moot,
July 24, 1995
to
August 3, 1995
at
Bradley Wood Scout Camp*

This Rover Moot is the first International Rover Moot held by the Baden-Powell Scouts Association. It is being held to mark the 25th Birthday of the Association, which is the largest traditional Scout organization in the UK.

The moot is open to all bone-fide Rovers (or National equivalent), and to any former Rovers who wish to rekindle the flames of International Brotherhood.

There is a strict minimum age limit of 17.5 years old, which is the lower age limit for a Rover Squire. There is no upper age limit.

The camp fees will be 50 pounds, which will include Rover Moot scarf and badge, excursions and trips, on-site activities etc., but not food.

Further details will be sent to applicants.

Send or fax applications to:
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International Department
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the beauty of
the Canadian
wilderness!



Rambling Duo
 Ray and Inge Bates
 Paris to Dhaka - August 93 to April 94

After five weeks in Canada getting reacquainted with our children and their families we flew to Paris on the first of August at the start of a trip which was to be mostly in Asia discovering places, sights and people we had not seen on previous Asian journeys, and renewing acquaintances with old friends and places visited long ago. In Paris we had the wonderful hospitality of a young travelling friend Yann Gibaja who moved out of his bachelor apartment for four nights to let us live there. The apartment's in a great location being on the left bank and a good stone's throw from Notre Dame. We had first met Yann in a Youth Hostel in Nikko Japan in 1986. He had visited us and stayed at our place in Pickering whilst he was doing research work at Purdue University Indiana. Taking it easy we still went to quite a few tourist "must sees". For Ray it was pure nostalgia time trying to remember how the places used to be from his cycling days of the early 1950's. eg. In the 50's the entrance to the Louvre was a small side door and when one was inside it, the museum was practically deserted and a pleasant unhurried time could be had gazing at a favourite picture or other piece of art. In the 90's one joins a slow moving queue of at least one thousand people to even get to the entrance which of course is the pyramid inspired Pi design. Inside one is jostled and herded along with what can only be described as a lightly controlled tourist mob.

Our real destination and start of this trip was to be Istanbul Turkey and with the use of a Eurorail Pass and a few busses we made it there by the third week of August. Enroute we visited Florence Italy and made a romantic/nostalgic side trip to Pisa where we first met in a Youth hostel in May 1959. We took an overnight ferry from Brindisi Italy to Patras Greece just as Ray had done in 1959. Stepping off the train in Corinth for a couple of days gave us time to visit Mykanae as well as ancient Corinth. A two night stop in Athens allowed us to revisit some of the famous sights there including the National Archeological Museum and the Acropolis. travelling on a low budget is tough these days in

Europe, but luckily we did the sight seeing on a Sunday when entrance fees are nil. A long slow but comfortable train journey from Athens brought us by evening to the northern port city of Salonika. there we made a pilgrimage to the grave of Ray's uncle Arther Thomas Bates who died of dysentery in 1916 while serving in a now forgotten Balkan campaign. In this campaign which lasted about two years the British lost over 10,000 men of which more than 5000 died of disease.

It was only a short hop alongside the Bulgarian border by train and then with a series of busses and hitched rides for us to be in Turkey last seen by us in 1960 on our way to India. We headed across the Dardanelles by ferry and on by bus to the little town of Canakale placed exactly at the mystic Hellas Point. near to Canakale is the ruins in nine civilizations and layers of ancient Troy, but since the film Gallipoli with Mel Gibson Canakale has become a pilgrimage spot for young Australian and New Zealanders visiting the battlefields of Gallipoli (Gelibollu) just across the water from Canakale. Prior to the film about 500 mostly elderly Anzac pilgrims came every year, but now the count exceeds 10,000 young tourists. We stayed in the Anzac House a central hangout for young backpackers and went on their tour of the battlefields and our guide was young Englishman named Graham who had once his niche in life giving English lessons to the tourist operators in Canakale as well as guiding using his encyclopedic knowledge of the Gallipoli campaign. This campaign was classic illustration of the first world wars cliché "lions led by donkeys" in which inept top leadership led in the end to about 70,000 allied dead, and on the Turkish side a greater number, but at least the latter were defending their country. Each

evening at the Anzac House there were Australian films on video as well as a packed happy hour where beer was served cold and cheap. The sidewalk outside had on it a sign board on which was written "Cooeee! Come in for a cold one mate". An efficient bus took us swiftly on to Istanbul which has grown enormously since we were last there on bikes in 1960. We recalled having seen the ancient ruined city walls from afar in 1960, now they are surrounded by up to fifty kilometres of urban sprawl and can hardly be seen at all. However the ancient part of the city seemed to be still intact and we found good comfortable lodging in the Barat House Hotel run by the friendly Barat family. The hotel lies in the shadow of the Topkapi Palace and just down a few streets from Agia Sophia and the blue Mosque. We revisited all of these as well as a new attraction the recently opened for tourists Istanbul Cisterns. These cisterns are deep man-made caverns in which the water for ancient Constantinople was kept especially useful in time of siege. Today modern Istanbul has a chronic water shortage. Our return visit to the formerly deserted beaches of the Black Sea was to find fenced beaches for which one has to pay an entrance fee. So that is progress?

In Istanbul we tried again as we had done in Paris to obtain a tourist visa for Iran and so facilitate our route to Pakistan. But we would have had to wait for six weeks and there was no guarantee so we gave up and switched to our plan B which was to get to Pakistan and eventually India via old Russia and Western China. After a considerable run around we manage to get a visa for China and airline ticket and a visa for Tashkent Uzbekistan. (We had already obtained the visa we required for Pakistan in Toronto).

We got out to the Istanbul airport by 7pm in plenty of time for our 10pm flight with Uzbekistan Airlines for the five hour flight to Tashkent. The terminal was a special one for old U.S.S.R. flights only and the night we flew there were six departing flights for Russian including two to Moscow. We wondered where were all these poor Russians going to and coming from: We soon found out amongst the check in chaos that these people were not so poor but simply traders and entrepreneurs flying to and from different areas of Russia buying goods for dollars. From Istanbul they were bringing mostly textiles, clothes including wedding dresses and plastic plumbing fittings. These goods were wrapped, bound and topped in great bundles which needed three men or two Russian women to manhandle over the airline counters as checked baggage. Our small backpacks were tiny by comparison, and that when we saw their idea of "carry on" we wondered why we had even bothered to have our bags checked in at all. Some of their "carry on" included full size TV sets in the boxes. There were no seat assignments and so when we finally were herded outside a mad scramble ensued as everyone made a dash for the plane. Our years of third world travel and sharp elbows paid off and we managed to get seats together. The general confusion had made all flights very late and ours was last as we left Istanbul in a groaning, squealing plane with engines roaring staggering off the ground at 2:30am. The flight was uneventful with no service of any sort. Well even if they had have had coffee it could not have been served because of the jammed aisles. It took two

hours to get through customs in Tashkent and our case they were most interested in any money we had. The officials said "show show money". We showed a little bit and said "checky visa card" which seemed to satisfy them.

In downtown Tashkent we were ushered towards and into the prestigious Intourist Hotel which to us budget travellers was against our religion at 80US dollars per night. After wheeling and wheedling for a while we finally made it to the Hotel Lokomotiv which looked more our style. However we did not get past the lobby here but were sent off to the railway station across the street to get police clearance. Here the policeman in charge gave us an immediate "No", but with persistence on our part he broke down, became our friend and eventually ended up taking us over to the Lokomotiv and checking us in himself. It all paid off in the form of a nice suite or two rooms complete with TV and a modern bathroom for a little less than 10US dollars. This was our first experience of the new "free" Russian Republics and so it went on everywhere with police control of people at every hotel, bus or rail station.

Tashkent was not too exciting being now a sprawling socialist block city, but we went by bus the four hours to Samarkand and there we were in our element surrounded by history and in one of the most fabulous cities of the old silk route.

In Samarkand we visited Registan Square with its fabulous blue tile decorated palaces and mosques. We also spent time at the great Observatory of Uglubek and the tomb of Tamerlane. The best part of Samarkand was being greeted by the people who were surprised and pleased to see individual travellers as opposed to the usual groups. It took some doing due to gasoline shortages but eventually we managed to get a car and driver to drive us into the neighbouring independent state of Tajikistan to visit the ruins of the ancient city of Penojiket. Between that and a visit to Shakhristabz we had lunch with the driver. He took us to a vine shaded yard where the three of us ate our fill of 12 Shashlik (shish-kebab), tomato Salad, Onion Salad, Bread, large bowl of fruit and tea, all for about 5US dollars.

Returning to Tashkent we set about getting a rail ticket out of town and going on to Alma Ata in Kazakhstan for which we had no visa. We had met in Samarkand a young English couple who with no visa for Kazakhstan had been each fined 80US dollars cash and pointed out of the country. The real problem was that this new country did not have any consulates anywhere to issue visas, but not one had told the local authorities who were more than happy to collect cash dollars. After another run around and a visit to a police station we were allowed to buy a train ticket. This was finally issued at a special office with a staff of six who did nothing else except sell railway tickets to foreigners estimated at about ten a week!!

The train was in the station on platform number 7, but there was only a bridge over the tracks to platform number 6 so we along with all the other passengers young and

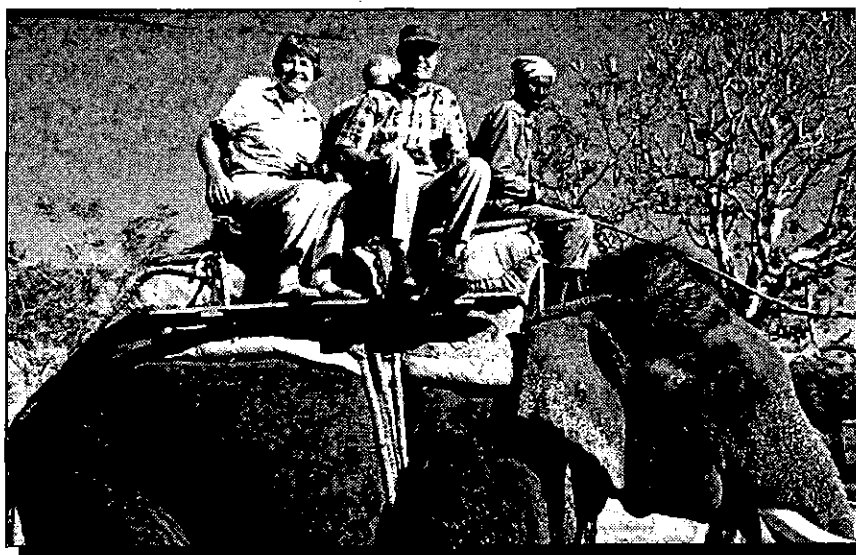
old had to scabble under the carriages to reach our carriage doors on the other side of a very long train. The train journey was scheduled to be 24 hours but it went on for more than 30, so we were happy to see our cabin companions were pleasant and friendly and as it turned out became our guardian angels. We were in a four berth cabin and our companions were Nigmat aged 40 and his nephew Bahadur both Uzbeks but living in Alma Ata Kazakhstan. The windows on the train were all tightly sealed and it was very hot, but this problem was resolved about 20 minutes out of Tashkent when someone threw a large rock through a window in the corridor. Apparently this sort of vandalism is common the new Russia, and for us it solved the problem of fresh air and when cleaned up the large gap gave a social focus and meeting place to the carriage as well as somewhere to heave the garbage so as to keep the train tidy. We travelled endlessly over the rolling steppe-like country and had longer and longer stops as the trip went on as the train was mostly running on a single track and the stops were to accommodate the oncoming trains. Despite a major language barrier we to on very well with Nigmat and he made us understand that as his wife had stayed on after a wedding in Tashkent and he had space at home he wanted us to stay with him in Alama Ata. We were happy to take him up on his offer as it would give us a chance to see how the normal folk lived and also it meant we did not have to check into a hotel and get the inevitable third degree regarding visas by the police.

His home was situated in the suburbs and like everywhere was an apartment situated in a dreary dirty socialist block amongst dozens of other blocks of a similar nature. but inside his home was pleasant, bright and clean decorated with carpets on the walls. With Nigmat we visited various parts of Alma Ata and even went to the nearby mountains to visit the high altitude outdoor speed skating arena at Medeo. All these trips were done on the worn out and crowded public transportation system. We spent a pleasant few hours with Nigmat's sister in law and even though here apartment block looked rougher than the rest, inside it was quite luxurious with the latest in electronic equipment. She told us about and showed us pictures of her trading trips down to Abu Dhabi UAE on which she specialized in home entertainment equipment. After 5 days in Alma Ata we bought a bus ticket to get us over the border to Yining in Western China. We were lucky to get out when we did as just 5 days later the border was closed because of a Cholera

outbreak in Kazakhstan. We Said our farewells to Nigmat who insisted on accompanying us to the bus station where our baggage was loaded into a bonded van that followed the bus. At the Kazakhstan/China border there was quite a discussion amongst the officials and soldiers as to how we were in Kazakhstan without a visa, but after a few minutes they gave us an exit stamp and allowed us to proceed into China.

After the new republics of old Russia, China with all it's new consumerism and availability of merchandise seemed to us at first to a raving Western shoppers paradise. We had been in Eastern and Central China for 6 weeks in 1986 and there were then the early signs of a consumer orientated society, but here in sparsely populated Xinjian Province it was blatantly evident in the packed stocked shops of the small frontier boom town of Yining in which we alighted from the bus. It was early evening and it was only then that we found out that our

baggage was to remain in the bonded locked van until 10am the next day and customs inspection. There was nothing for it but to be patient and check into our budget hotel sans baggage. Next day all was well and except for confiscation of couple of Kazak apples for personal use by the customs inspector our backpacks were handed over intact. After a day in Yining we booked passage on an "alleged" 12 hour bus trip to the capital of the province Urumqui. The daytime hours of the trip were



interesting and beautiful as we crossed and ran alongside the snow capped Tian Shan (Heavenly Mountains). Enroute we passed numerous little caravans of people riding a mixture of horses, Bactrian camels, and oxen. These were the Kazak herdsmen and their families starting to round up their mixed herds and head for lower pastures. Their homes were on the backs of the oxen in the form of folded yurts (nomads felt tents). But the journey of 12 hours turned into an 18 hour one and we arrived cold and stiff in Urumqui at 3 am.

Urumqui became a base for us and we were in and out of it for about two weeks. In between trips we indulged ourselves by going and having coffee and cake at the 24 storey Holiday Inn. This hotel built like a big round tower has revolving restaurant on the 24th floor as well as a large health spa on the 23rd. One of our excursions was a 5 day Chinese tour of over 2000 km round trip to the Dunhuang 1000 Buddha cave area close to the Western end of the Great Wall. On the way we visited Turfan and Hami, both famous cities at the time of the Silk Routes zenith. These large desert oasis towns are kept alive by tunnels bringing since ancient times

water from the Tian Shan up to 20 km away. Due to breakdowns the 5 day tour became a 6 day one, included in these breakdowns of a 3 month old Chinese manufactured mini bus was, two windows including the windshield shattering, broken drive shaft coupling and twice running out of gasoline. We were 7 tourists, consisting of 3 Taiwan Chinese, 1 Hong Kong Chinese, 1 Japanese and us two. But adding to the load and making the bus groan was 16 members of the drivers family who came along for the ride and presumably at our combined expense. They ranged from great grandmother down to tiny baby.

Another more restful time was had staying with a family in a tourist yurt up close to the Tian Shan amongst scenery reminiscent of Lake Louise Alberta. At the yurt we met up with and slept alongside a variety of fellow travellers. Amongst them were Jane and Peter/UK, on a one year RTW trip, Tuomo/Finland a veteran Asian traveller, and Angela/Australia, language teacher and musician who had been teaching in China for 1 year. Tuomo was an expert on finding pork and beer in Moslem countries. We were destined to cross and recross each others paths for the next three months. Besides these younger travellers we were pleased to meet on our travels through Asia a fair sprinkling of older travellers doing it on their own without benefit of a tour or group. Cooking for us at the yurt was mother of Ha-Li-Da a young woman who guided us to the yurt. The two ladies slept alongside us all at night and so did a younger brother who sang us to sleep to his guitar accompaniment.

from Urumqi we journeyed on the unique "sleeper bus" for 33 hours across the desert West for 1000 km to the city of Kashgar (Kashi). The "sleeper bus" is a standard Chinese bus fitted out with three rows and two tiers of a combination hospital bed/airline seat for a total of 24 places. There were very few Han Chinese on the bus and besides us two westerners the remainder of the passengers were Uzbecks and Kazaks (Uygur people). The women all wore colourful dresses and the men sported a sharp dagger at the waist. On the bus was an old Uzbek of 93 accompanied by his son. Despite the hardness and toughness of the trip along the rough road the old man never made a murmur as he lay in his berth fully dressed including his black polished riding boots.

We spent a week in Kashgar our stay culminating in a medieval style weekly market at which 100,000 people attend. The market sells everything and if you want to buy a horse, there is a test track for trial purposes on which the horses are ridden mostly bareback at breakneck speed. Furs and pets of various endangered species are readily available. To get around Kashgar we mostly rented bicycles, but to get to the market we hired a little donkey cart and went along with our young friend Angela.

From Kashgar it is a two day bus ride to the top of the Khunjerab Pass on the Karakoram Highway and the Pakistan frontier and we accomplished this without major incident except to marvel at the snowy mountain scenery as we crawled up to the 4700 meter summit. On the way we passed tiny villages and as we got higher the bast of burden changed

from the ox to the yak. the Pakistan side is a steep descent alongside a gorge of a roaring stream that gets bigger to become the Hunza River and eventually to go on to join the Indus. This river was for us a wonderful and exciting introduction to a very special and exciting place on this earth, the Hunza District of Pakistan.

We descended the pass somewhat to arrive at the customs and immigration post of Sost (Sust) village. For us with a visa it was a quick formality to enter Pakistan and there were a few travellers without visas who were given a 15 day entry on the spot. Technically or diplomatically speaking the Hunza District is a disputed area on Pakistani map and a part of Kashmir/India on Indian ones. The people of this area although having no voting rights because of this situation seem very content, and they get a lot of financial support from the Pakistan government as well as from the Agha Khan Foundation. This latter is because they are almost 100% Ismaili Moslems who look to the Agha Khan for support especially in the areas of education and agriculture/irrigation. Their villages and fields are scattered on tiny ledges and wedges of land between numerous streams, glaciers and landslides for about 150 km from the border down to "real Pakistan" starting at Gilgit. We spent 11 days in this area moving slowly from village to village by the daily bus or on the back of a passenger Suzuki. All around us were mountain peaks wilder and craggier than we had ever seen. Amongst the named ones were Rakaposhi, K2 and the infamous Nanga Parbat also known locally as Killer Mountain. These three at over 8000 meters hardly dwarfed dozens of other peaks all close to that height. We filled our time doing day hikes, scrambling over glaciers, crossing scary suspension bridges and walking along the paths bordering irrigation channels. On the channel walks we were constantly invited to share tea in homes or were given fruit, nuts or fresh vegetables as we walked along. One young lady of about 18 years invited us into her traditional home for tea where we sat with her two sisters-in-law and their children drinking tea and chatting for an hour or so. Communication was easy as because of the emphasis on education especially for young women amongst the Ismailis they all spoke excellent English. In school the children learn Urdu, English and at least one local language. One of the sisters-in-law's little boys aged six did his party piece for us reciting all the words of Baa Baa Blacksheep as well as reciting the English alphabet and counting to 30 all in English. The sisters-in-law had both married at 13 and now at 19 and 20 had 5 children between them. Physically the people of this area look like large Southern Europeans and there is a fair sprinkling of blue eyes and some fair hair, some say this dates back to the invasions of Alexander amongst others. The cash crops here are apricot (for longevity) and seed potatoes for the Punjab market.

The Karakoram Highway is relatively new only being open to tourists 10 years ago, but already the adventurous ones of this world are making it a goal. On the pass and on the road we met Dutch, German, and British cyclists, German and British motorcyclists and we even met a young Dane on horseback. The Dane was at the end of a 6 month horse trek starting in Bhutan and then going on through India, Nepal, Tibet, China.

and now Pakistan.

After the Hunza the rest of Pakistan lay before us and for the next 2 weeks we carried on to explore it via the Swat Valley, Peshawar, Rawalpindi /Islamabhad and Lahore. In the Swat Valley high on a hill outlined in white stones was the sign Churchills Piquet a reference to the adventurous life of the young Winston in the Malakand campaign of the late 19th century. An earlier campaign was commemorated the ruins of Barikot originally run over by Alexander in time BC. this valley is also littered with Buddhist remains from the time of the Gandhara culture, and these ruins though obviously Buddhist show Greek influence in the decor.

From Peshawar we made an interesting day trip through tribal territory to the Khyber Pass. The trip involved getting permits and being accompanied by an armed Pathan guard. the British history of the Khyber was well documented by the remaining forts, defunct railway and the numerous regimental

crests carved and painted on the craggy cliffs. With our friend from Finland, Tuomo, we made a trip to Darra, famous for its 100 year old gun industry. Nowadays there are 5000 artisans in this little town making every conceivable weapon from James Bond pen guns to sophisticated Kalishnikov copies all by hand. for 5US dollars the tourist can fire off a magazine of AK ammunition and we were told for 50 dollars it could be arranged to fire off anti tank rocket launchers in the desert.

We explored the great sprawling city of Rawalpindi (Pindi) and applied for our Indian visa in it's new twin diplomatic city of Islamabhad. The visa process took four days so we used this time to go up to the old British hill station of Murree. Here with its gentle but crumbling Hotel Cecil and numerous churches the Raj live on but the white sahibs have been replaced by the brown sahibs as the growing Pakistani middle class enjoy themselves. We took photographs inside and out of Holy Trinity (1860) for a Canadian friend of ours who was christened there in 1926.

With Indian visa in hand we headed east and to the great border city of Lahore with its great fort, mosques, museum and British Cantonment and Mall area. The museum

of which Kipling's father was once the curator houses a fine Buddhist/Gandhara collection as well as an interesting exhibition of the freedom struggle as seen from a Pakistani perspective. Outside the museum is still placed Zam-Zammar (Kims Gun) and this indeed was the setting for the opening page of Kim by Rudyard Kipling. The Pakistani hospitality continued to the border as we were never allowed to pay for tea or snacks in tea shops.

The road border between Pakistan and India is only open to foreign travellers as Pakistanis and Indian must travel by train or fly. This made for a very relaxed border crossing and on the morning we crossed the 10 tourists were outnumbered about 10 to 1 by civil servants who for once seemed to be happy to have something to do. Sharing a taxi with 3 new Zealanders were soon in Amritsar Punjab and the religious capital for Sikhs worldwide.

Amritsar for us has pleasant memories of the Golden

Temple and serious memories of the Jalliniwalla Bagh Garden (Gen Dwyer Massacre 1919), but most of all we remember Surinder Singh, cycle rickshaw driver extraordinaire. At first reluctantly on our part, he took us under his wing from when we got out of the taxi till we left Amritsar two day later. He showed us and explained sights of



Amritsar not in any guide book. In addition he guided and drove us to the correct bank to change money, showed us where the freshest Samosas were to be had and then took us to the best tea shops to eat them with the tea. This thin little man in his patched but clean shirt and pants became a friend as well as being a superb guide. We travelled on in India for the next 5½ months and often wished another Surinder would appear.

We travelled on by fast train to Delhi and then to Agra where we visited the Taj Mahal for the third time. My diary records "still wonderful". Not so Delhi, which has become an overcrowded, polluted city in need of a municipal renewal. Only 60 km from Agra and we were in the state of Rajasthan famous for its desert setting, palaces, and colourful people. But we stopped first at Bharatpur and spent 4 wonderful days at the Kelodeo National Park. The park is 27 square kilometres and was formerly the local Rajah's bird shooting preserve. It has been artificially flooded and the

water level maintained in this vast swamp for almost 100 years. There are raised roads and tracks through the park and we rented bicycles every day for five hours of continuous bird watching. There are hundreds of species there and as most of them are large water birds spotting is easy and fun. The park is a great winter haven for birds, many of them coming from Siberia and Assam in Eastern India. Accommodation and restaurants were fun too, as in the spirit of the place they had such names as Eagle nest Hotel or The Spoonbill Restaurant. It was in the Spoonbill that we met Minna the 12 year old daughter of the owner, a retired Indian army Sergeant Major (a Rajput). He told us he had made more money serving tourist for the past tow years than in all his 26 in the army. Minna was a little charmer and with her fluent English was able to interface with the clients and act as a buffer for the nice but rather stupid waiters and certainly helped her father make money.

For the next 2 weeks we travelled on through amazing somewhat touristy Rajasthan visiting and seeing the sights of Jaipur, Jhodpur, Udaipur and the smaller centres of Pushkar and Jaiselmere. The first three places mentioned are full of the sandstone brown and pink architected palaces and buildings one associates with time of the Maharajah. In Udaipur we were able to stay in a small family mansion (Havali) with a view out of our window of the famous Palace Hotel (James Bond Ocotopussy). Our view was worth a million but staying with the Soni family only cost 4US dollars and that included tea in bed each morning. We spent time in Pushkar just before the annual Camel Fair and were able to witness the gathering of thousands of camels form all over the state. The camels came in all sizes with sleek shaven racing camels standing out form the mass. With the thousands of camels came hundreds of drivers and assorted hangers on, and as there was not toilet facilities things were starting to get a little smelly and unhealthy so we decided to leave and head for Jaiselmere close tothe Pakistan border in the desert. There we stayed right in the fort which in itself is in the walled city. Just to be there was to step back hundreds of years especially in the morning and evening when the package tourists had left.

Trying to find places in India free of tourists these days is difficult but we had read that Bhuj on the Rannof Kutch was such a place, so we endured 1½ days of tough bus and train travel to get there only to find at least 50 other travellers had got the same idea. Ah well!! We made the best of a not so isolated paradise and did trips into the surrounding desert visiting different cooperative village workshops for which the area is famous.

Many more busses and trains took us via Rhajkot, Amedhabad, Surat, Ajanta/Ellora (caves) to arrive in Bombay for Christmas. In Amedhabad we visited the tranquil oasis of M.K. Ghandi's first ashram and also had a nice surprise to be invited into the house of a Moslem family. We went for tea and cakes and met everybody form Grandma down, as well as a 20 year old girl about to be married. We met here again with her new husband on the other side of India in Calcutta when we went there three months later.

We ended up spending 9 days in Bombay the most Victorian of Indian cities. We tried to remember our time there as young honeymoon cyclists in 1960 and sure enough just down the street from our budget Whalleys Hotel in Colabar was our first hotel in India in 1960; the Salvation Army Hostel. When we stayed there in 1960 we were the only travellers and the other guests were mostly missionary people waiting for ships to take them on leave to the UK. Now there is a queue (line up) of young backpackers every morning at dawn waiting for beds to become empty. an interesting quest in Bombay for us that took us to all manner of interesting places was the search for a Canadian friend's great grandfather's grave. He was a captain of a sailing ship and had died in Bombay about 1860. The search took us to an extensive old cemetery where although all Christian, the dead were buried in strict church order, ie; Baptists here, Methodists there and even the churches of North and South India had separate sections. Another interesting visit was to the Afghan Church built by public subscription in the 1800's to remember the great retreat and glorious defeat the British men, women and children suffered at Kabul Afghanistan at that time. We looked up the still functioning Royal Bombay Yacht Club where Ray had stayed on business trips form Calcutta in 1961. It was fascinating to look around the library which looked by the gathering dust that the last new books arrived in 1947. On one shelf we noticed one nautical book with the poignant inscription "to John from Gladys new year 1893". They were having a Christmas lunch of roast turkey or roast pork, so after talking with the club secretary; a retired Indian Airforce Wing Commander we signed up. We had a fine lunch in the English tradition even as the confused and disorganized waiters turned the place into an Indian version of Fawlty Towers.

Between Christmas and New Year we headed for Poona (Pune) and a reunion with Sham and Sheela Kirloskar old friends form our 3 years in India 1960-64. We had not seen them for 30 years, but except for grey and missing hair it was just like yesterday. Their home town is Poona and we arranged to meet them later at Hubli in Karantaka State where they live and Sham works as President of one of the Kirloskar factories. Kirloskar now employs over 20,000 personnel in their Indian operations. Elsewhere in Poona we visited the palace where Ghandi was imprisoned by the British in 1942. His wife Kasturbi died there and the palace is featured in the Richard Attenborough film about Ghandi. These days Poona has become the focus for devotees of a more modern saint in the shape of the late Sri Bhagwan's Osho Ashram. At this ashram devotees form all over the world pay a lot of money and endure a mandatory aids test to partake in the ashram activities. Devotees live off site and so a very large infrastructure has grown up to serve them. In the winter season as many as 7000 disciples are there and every form of accommodation from five star to low budget rooms and rental apartments are available. Our best find was German bakery with a great selection of breads and cakes: Yum!!!

A couple more day of bus travel along and across the Western Ghats (hills) brought us for a 12 day hangout in the old hippie haven of Goa. Our diary reads "Goa beach life

OK". Wonderful beaches, good weather and cheap beer! Is it any wonder that Goa is becoming the new "in place" for package holidays from Europe? It was in Goa that we heard that our tenants in Canada had done a "midnight flit" and so left us without our monthly travelling money via the rent. This was not good news but we did get some in the news that Karen was awaiting her second baby. These two pieces of news made us rethink our plans and we advised our family to keep our house unrented as we would plan to return to Canada in May. This still gave us four months to complete what was for us essential travels.

After Goa we bussed over to Hubli where we were met by a chauffeured car and generally treated as visiting royalty by our Kirloskar friends. We visited the Hubli factories with them and then drove down together to their Harihar plants in old Mysore State. These factories are where Ray spent many weeks in 1963-64 helping out with the assembly of machines made under a license between his British/Indian firm and Kirloskars. Inge, Ellen and Karen were packed along for some of these trips. Now it was a great pleasure for Ray to be recognized by some of the old timers, and also to see how well the factory had grown and progressed.

Our journey took us on through South India stopping off at Bangalore and Mysore. then it was up high into the Nilgiri hills for some game spotting at Bandipur National Park. Sher (tiger) was absent but from elephant back we saw a variety of deer, monkey, fox and mongoose. Moving onto Ooticummund was a step back into the age of hill station life, an age when "Ooty" was the favourite cooling off station for folk in the steamy coastal cities of South India. Ooty is still surrounded by mile after mile of tea and coffee plantations and the long ago transplanted Gorse grows at the road side. The 100 year old botanical garden is in excellent shape and a real credit to long gone gardeners. Now the ever expanding Indian middle class packs the hotels and their children populate the private (English public) schools.

Down from the hills we headed into the coast at Ernakulam and Cochin. From either of these places the waterside views are full of interest every minute of the day as a pageant of water craft of every shape and size passes by. Added to this are the small inshore fishing canoes, and along the sea edges the massive Chinese Fishing nets constantly dipping for catch. This area is also very historic with remnants of Dutch, British, Portuguese, Jewish and the local Princes cultures remaining. At Fort Chochin there is a church first built by the Portuguese, then taken over and worked on by the Dutch, to be finished and used for 150 years by the British. nearby is an old Jewish Synagogue as well as Hindu Temples and Islam Mosques.

The way to travel in Kerala is by boat and we did this on an all day backwater trip from Allepy to Quilon. The backwaters are the canals part natural, and part manmade just inland from the sea. From Quilon we made for more beach time to the yet "undiscovered" seaside village of Varkala. It is the backpackers answer to over commercialized Kovalam beach area and so far the discoverers only number

in the 100's. Varkala is every ones ideal idea of what Kerala should look like. it has beautiful curved beach with powder sand backed by a cliff resplendent with full grown palm trees. From the cliff at two or three spots there pours fresh water at shoulder height so fresh water shower is available. Travellers stay in converted bungalows and we stayed at one nick-named "The White House" due to its colour and not to it's occupants. We began to fit in and eventually stayed 12 days.

Heading East and slightly North we began to turn the corner of the vee in India and from Trivandurum travelled on through the temple cities of Madurai and Trishinapoly to eventually arrive back in the city of Madras which we had left 30 years earlier when we moved to Canada. India's population has doubled in the intervening year and Madras has kept pace and to us was not recognizable as the peaceful park like city we left behind, and we were shocked. It has grown in all ways, and with the great amount of industry, heavy pollution, overcrowding and heavy traffic, not always for the best. Of course this time around we were using public transportation and staying in "budget" hotels, where as before we had a car and driver and lived in a house located in a private 6 acre park so our shock was biased. We did go back to look at our old house and it was more or less the same except that the park is now surrounded by large housing developments. Some things stay the same though and it was with great pleasure that we found Mr. P.L. Reddy, an old work colleague of Ray's. he took us to our old Gymkhana Club still run as a private concern complete with restaurants, bars, ballroom, swimming pool and a men's changing room featuring an air conditioned barbers shop. This club recently celebrated its 200th anniversary. We had lunch as the guest of P.L. and his wife and he crowned the occasion by presenting us with a chocolate cake from the club's own bakery shop. We also contacted our old doctor Dr. Chevalier Vax who at 87 is still working morning and afternoon. It was he who delivered Karen whom at that time was christened in the Church of St. Mary's in Madras Fort. This church is the oldest English church east of Suez, and it is where Robert Clive of India was married.

On the 19th of February, we set out on what became a 29 hour train journey to another old town of ours and that being Calcutta. We had pretty basic berths for the night and a seat for the day and life was never dull as we rolled along. Every conceivable form of hawker and beggar made their rounds on this train and to observe was life itself. Every few minutes for at least 23 of the 29 hours we were offered tea, coffee, coconuts, omelets, samosas, combs, toys, books and many etc's. As far as beggars I stopped counting after 100 and they came in all types. There was the blind, no arms, no legs, deformed, singing, chanting, poor and the very poor. Meanwhile little homeless boys of 7 or maybe 9 years would sweep the floor under our feet or clean shoes. These boys travelled hundreds of miles on the long distance trains sleeping in corners and grabbing leftovers for food.

Arriving in Calcutta was not the chock we expected and it felt a little like home as not too much has changed in the central part of town. The State of Bengal in which Calcutta lies has had a communist government for many years and

they are always at loggerheads with the central government, so no money, so no change. We made our way to the backpacker/cheap hotel area of Sudder Street and felt immediately at home for on this street was our first Calcutta home in 1960; of course The Salvation Army Hostel. It was full mostly with young international volunteers working at the various Mother Teresa projects in the neighbourhood, so we found a "better ole" down the street. It was fun meeting these young people from all over the world at the popular Blue Sky Room restaurant where we usually had breakfast. The blue sky is big but this restaurant is not. In a space of a good sized living room 50 or more customers were packed in to be served quickly and correctly by one only very nimble waiter. The menu was very varied with all sorts of egg dishes as well as many combinations of the porridge and mueli list. He never took note and he was never wrong. The cooks were three young men working in a black sweaty hole behind a wire fence facing the customers. Typical price of a good breakfast for two people was 2 dollars.

Some new sights greeted us in Calcutta and the most intriguing of these was Rats Corner, an area of a fenced park where thousands of rats have been encouraged to live, colonise, and multiply. Rats of all sizes poke up out of the warren of tunnels below to be fed by passers by. We asked a Bengali man about this and he said, "well Sir, you have your speakers' corner in London, and we have our rats corner in Calcutta." Calcutta's latest and most modern claim to fame is a length of Metro running below ground along the famous avenue Chowringhee. For us it was cheap but not so for the locals so it does not get much use except in a limited time of rush hours. This meant that contrary to most Calcutta public transport it is clean, well maintained and safe. In its own way it is a wonder of engineering as most of Calcutta lies at water level and at monsoon times under water level, so to keep the Metro dry is quite a feat.

Wandering around Calcutta we found our old apartments still standing as well as Ray's old head company office. We were also able to go for a swim in the pool of our old club; The Calcutta Swimming Club. In our time this club was reserved for whites only, but now it's a hangout for the wealthier Calcutta business class.

We obtained a Bangladesh visa in Calcutta and started a two week side trip into and around Bangladesh by crossing over the border at Benopole just 80 kilometres from Calcutta. We went around by bus and a lot of boats travelling through Dhaka, Chittagong, Coxes Bazaar, Barisal and Khulna. We were impressed with the speciousness, and cleanliness of Dhaka. Industrially and economically, Bangladesh is quite a bit behind modern day India, and it reminded us in many ways of the India we knew 30 years ago. In Dhaka there is limited motor transport, but that is made up for the more than 100,000 cycle rickshaws, that with bells jingling, throng the streets.

From Chittagong we made a three day excursion up to Rangamati in an area known as The Hill Tracts lying near the Burmese border. The area is mostly inhabited by tribal

minorities and some Burmese refugees. We had to get a permit to visit this area as there had been trouble for many years between the Bangladesh authorities and the tribal people and tourist traffic is closely controlled. Tourist traffic is not very big anyway in Bangladesh and we only saw a total of two other groups of two during our time there, compared to thousands in India. One of these was Willi and Ursula from Switzerland, he a Swissair pilot and she a librarian. As Willi explained he had flown over Bangladesh so many times in his career that he just had to make a trip to see what was down there amongst that maze of islands and water. They were travelling like us staying in "no star" hotels and according to Willi it was a wonderful change from his usual stopover "five star" travel style. In Chittagong we visited the Sultan Bostami Mausoleum and a nearby pool whose inhabitants are 40 year old large turtles which are hand fed. They are said to be the reincarnations of demons trapped long ago in the pool. Nearby was a WWII commonwealth cemetery with 700 graves. The graves include British, Australian, New Zealand, U.S.A. servicemen as well as the graves of Moslem West African and Indian soldiers. In one corner there is a group grave of 18 Japanese. All these service people died in the area during the Burmese/Arakan campaign. Today the cemetery with its perfect lawn and well kept gardens is a popular walking spot for local folk, at its is a green oasis in rather sparse surroundings.

We went on a little south to Coxes Bazaar and almost the end of Bangladesh. Here there are large Burmese refugee camps and a big United Nations presence and a local industry of better hotels and a golf course to support that. Large concrete block houses on the beach front labelled Hurricane Shelter testified to the risky way of life here.

Our boating life started with a 24 hour journey from Chittagong via the islands of Sandip and Hatay to Barisal. The boat which looked big enough to handle 300 or 500 passengers was because of the Rhamadan holiday loaded down with over 2000!! It was standing room only for most passengers, and we were lucky and privileged to get one of the four cabins after standing for 6 hours. It wasn't much but it was home and we could at least stretch out. The boat was packed mostly with countryfolk going home to their family island homes. Most had never seen a Western person before and stood in groups around our one tiny window staring in at us as if we were in a zoo cage. Some even put their heads through the open window, and finally this got to be too much for Ray who grabbed the next protruding head by the hair and brought the nose down hard on the window sill. Alas it was the waiter coming to enquire if sir would like some tea!!

We eventually made it ashore and at one point we felt we could have stepped off in the middle of the Bay of Bengal. For here out of sight of land we ran gently onto a mud bank and had to wait 4 hours to be floated off by the tide. Although his area is classed as a bay, in fact it is the very large estuary of two of the world's largest rivers, The Ganges and the Brahmaputra so sand and mud bars are a way of life. Bangladesh has all this mud but absolutely no rock or stone, which if needed for construction purposes has to be imported.

Ashore in Barisal we rested up to prepare for the upcoming 18 hour voyage on a side paddle wheel boat know affectionately in Bangladesh as the Rocket. The Rocket looks and moves like a large floating shed. The originals were wood fired steamers, but for the last 35 years they have been powered by now old British diesel engines. It turned out to be a pleasant cruise as we had the nice company of a Dhaka doctor with his wife and two smart worldly daughters. We also had the luxury of a cabin to stretch out in up on the captain's deck. Down below several ordinary class passengers were confined like cattle. This part of our travels was mostly along large rivers and we passed hundreds of boats of every possible size all being poled or sailed along with narry and outboard motor in sight. The land was flat and green and barely above water level at this pre-monsoon time. We arrived in Khulna at 2am and are transported around town on a cycle rickshaw to eventually find a hotel. Yesterday was the end of Rhamadan and today at 2am it is the Id festival, and the streets are thronged with men arm in arm with their friends, celebrating, having shaves and new haircuts and all we want to do is sleep!! Throughout the day as we travelled from Khulna back to Calcutta, the holiday atmosphere prevailed with families parading in new clothes and temporary butchers shops being set up under convenient Banyan trees to supply meat for the evening feasting. Our diary for that day reads "Khulna/Calcutta, cycle rickshaw, bus, bus, cycle rickshaw, border, cycle rickshaw - 10 km, bus and taxi" so giving us seven transport changes for 150 km.

It was mid March when we arrived back in Calcutta and the temperatures were beginning to rise into the low 30's°C with accompanying humidity we headed up to the cool of the Eastern Himalaya's and the overnight Darjeeling Mail took us to Siliguri from where it was only 80 km up the old twisting mountain road to Darjeeling and it's tea country at 2000 meters. Paralleling the road is the old Mountain Railway with it's 100 year old steam trains and rolling stock. Constant delays and breakdowns have made this train a tortuous experience for the traveller so we took a faster somewhat scarier bus. In Darjeeling we stayed at the Hotel Capital run by a very pleasant Tibetan family. These second generation Tibetan refugees run many of the tourist associated businesses in this area. From our room balcony we had great views of Kachenjunga at 8000+ meters all of 140 km away. The travellers grapevine was working well as this hotel had been recommended to us by a young English man in Ooty some two months earlier. He had also given us lots of tips on Sikkim travel which was to be our next destination.

Waiting around for the permits for Sikkim travel allowed us time to explore the wonderful walks around Darjeeling. On these walks we visited old tea estates, cemeteries, the Snow Leopard Sanctuary as well as the Himalayan Mountain Institute with its mountaineering museum. near to the museum is a monument to Darjeeling's most famous personality the late Sherpa Tenzing Norquay first conqueror of Everest with Sir Edmund Hillary in 1953.

With Sikkim permits in hand we bussed on the spectacular mountain road over the border and on to Sikkim's

capital of Gangtok. Sikkim is now part of India but until the 70's it was a separate country and if it had remained so it would have been our 102nd!! So which list are you using? And who's counting? Ha! We spent a week in Sikkim travelling around its limited roads getting bigger views on Cachenjunga now 'only' 100 km away. We also saw some wonderful varieties of orchids and beautiful bird and butterfly species. In this setting we celebrated Easter with new friends Peter and Vrene of Switzerland. We happened to be staying at a government hotel where a German group had checked in with their Turkish guide. To make them feel not too far from home he was arranging a traditional German Easter breakfast complete with coloured Easter eggs. Seeing us looking a little forlorn he made some for us so we joined in, and besides Easter, Inge and I celebrated our 34th wedding anniversary at the same time.

Our cooling off time lasted four weeks in the mountains and then it was down to an even more steamy Calcutta to catch our budget priced Aeroflot flight going via Sharjah UAE, Moscow to London England. We spent 3 weeks in the UK visiting Ray's parents and other friends and relatives before flying home to Toronto and Canada on the 4th of May.

Questions, Facts and Figures

Time?	276 days (nine+ months)
Distance?	30,500 km on land bus/train. 750 hrs at 40 kph.
	22,000 km by air.
Beds?	103
Costs?	11,200 US dollars <u>all inclusive two persons.</u> (incl. bed and board, transportation, phone calls home, and stamps and many many etc's. Air fares of \$3000 included in above amount, and remainder breaks down to \$14.85 per day per person. Average cost of accommodation \$7.65 for double room. Cost of land transportation \$690.00 per person of \$0.02 per kilometre.)
Problems?	No violence encountered, and only heard of one or two cases of petty theft.
Sickness?	Yes. Inge contracted Herpes Zoster (Shingles) diet related. Cured by taking it easy and doses of Vitamin B Complex, as well as eating more meat and fish and drinking more beer which is also inclined to favour the B Vitamin.



Dear Reader: This column arrived at literally the eleventh hour. A series of minutes was received. What follows is an excerpt from those minutes.

Date: Fri, 30 Sep 1994 16:47:09
 From: aa479@freenet.carleton.ca (Michael Wolff)
 To: jasitler@library.uwaterloo.ca
 Subject: ORRT minutes

Two Questor Award applications were received--one from the Mississagi Region and one from the National Capital Region. It was further decided that when the Questor Award information packages are found, they would be mailed to all regional representatives. Also, lots of correspondence was received pertaining to *Discovery of the Future*, including documents from Robert Shlemkevich, the Quebec Rover Round Table, the 1st Burford Rover Crew, the B.C.-Yukon Rover Round Table, Russ Kelk, the Alberta Rover Round Table, and Chris Henderson.

Chair's Report

Ian Reilly stated that he wanted to be brief. He said that this had been a great weekend. ORRT is enjoying a steady increase in attendance and participation, and the Provincial Council is taking note of this good trend. He expressed his pleasure at bringing ORRT up for its first meeting in Sault-Ste-Marie, and hoped that ORRT would again find the opportunity to have a meeting in this Region. Ian Reilly thanked Karen Madill for her hard work as his co-chair for the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot*. He also expressed his happiness with the moot's outcome as a good fulfilment for his four years of work. Ian Reilly said that it is now time to begin plotting ORRT's course for the next year. The *Discovery of the Future* process is almost finished, but the process of retooling the Rover program has just begun. Also, effort will be spent on rebuilding ORRT through better communications with all Regions, and by approving a new constitution within a year.

Vice-chair's Report

Adam Edmonds expressed his opinion that, since April, a lot of time has been spent dealing with *Discovery of the Future*. He hoped that now ORRT could begin to deal with the more procedural matters facing its restructuring.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Mike Wolff echoed the other two executive members in stressing the importance of communications in any ORRT restructuring. He also expressed that while the issues emanating from *Discovery of the Future* are far from over, it will be nice to get on with business more uniquely concerning ORRT. Advisor's Report Russ Kelk added Provincial thanks to the hosting of this activity weekend, which amounted to a mini-moot. He mentioned how the Provincial Commissioner is very supportive of what Rovers are doing in Ontario. He praised the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot* for being a good forum to talk about training and to exchange information about Rovering. He also noted the change in the way that ORRT is operating under the new executive, with meetings being held around the province to improve the access of ORRT to all Ontario Rovers. Finally, he thanked Ruth Behnka for her hospitality over the weekend.

Regional Reports

Central Escarpment - No report.

Greater Toronto

The region has had a quiet summer. We would like to congratulate the Yoeman Committee for running a successful Rover level hike competition. The results should be officially announced in October. We are currently re-organizing the Round Table. We wish Sean Hume, who is now attending Queen's University, and Dan Ryan, who is now organizing a corporate tour, all the best. The current Chairperson is Heather Smith, who is busy re-evaluating the Round Table. *Search Moot* is coming up. More to follow after our first meeting. Several GTR Rovers were heavily involved in the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot* as staff.

Green Valleys

A meeting was held in August to discuss *Discovery of the Future*. Rovers planned and staffed *Indava*, a week-long Cub camp in July. Rovers from the Region have attended all moots this summer. *Hallowe'en Moot* is coming up the weekend after Thanksgiving. Rovers helped out with a Rubber Ducky Race in Brantford, which was a fundraiser for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. There is also some talk of starting fundraising for the *Australian National Moot* in December 1995/January 1996.

Land 'o' Lakes

Crews are working hard in their own communities. The second annual year-end moot held in Orillia was a tremendous success with over 80% of the Crews in the Region represented. We are now beginning to get the ball rolling as a Region now. We are finally communicating now and holding meetings. There is a positive attitude to the oncoming year.

Mississagi

We have been very busy up here in the North. 1st Sudbury Rovers received their new crests (which have apparently not done the Imperial Dragons in GTR). They have also participated in the Fringe Festival, which is a local festival, where street performers and acting troupes strut their stuff on the stage. The Sudbury Rovers performed Official Scouting Campfires which were very well received. As well they have taken on the job of maintaining the local Scout camp as a major fundraiser. In the first two months they have already put in 60 man-hours. The Rovers in Sudbury are also getting the chance to strut their stuff on the training stage. There is at least one Rover on each section Part One that will be held this October. As well, two of those Rovers are teamleaders for the Troop and Company Sections. The Rovers in the Sault have been very busy planning a very successful weekend for the Mississagi Regional Rover Round Table as well as for the Ontario Rover Round Table. A good time was had by all and a new standard was set for other Regions to try to better. As well two Rovers in Sudbury received the Certificate for Meritorious Conduct. They both were involved in an incident where they saved the life of a fellow Rover. That brings the number of holders of that award to four in the Region, with three of them being Rovers.

National Capital

The National Capital Region Rover Round Table (NCRRT) has its first meeting of the year where we held a dessert buffet. We have five new Crews in the Region this year. Over the summer, we held a pool party for all the Rovers in the Region. As far as service work goes, Rovers worked at the lost children's booths at both the Central Canada Exhibition and over Canada Day. Rovers were also volunteering at the Greek Festival and the Air Show. Rovers from the NCR ran two expeditions for the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot*. Our biggest regional moot, *RoVent '94*, is coming up on October 21-23rd at Camp Opemikon near Perth, Ontario. For more information, contact Adam Edmonds.

Niagara

This is the Niagara Rover Round Table's most excellent outstanding boring ORRT report. We have had different forms of training happening throughout the summer months. Hours and hours of different types of service has been done. We had multitudes of people who attended the provincial moot as staff and these people or person not to be named did his job with great care and it's not true that he spit in the food. We also hosted the Niagara Excursion.

Rover Communications (Ian Reilly)

ORRT is now making regular submissions to *Rovering Magazine* discussing ORRT activities. Part of this is still another attempt to reach those Regions without current ORRT participation. The ORRT executive is trying to invite representatives from the absent Regions out to our meetings, and inviting those Regions to make submissions to us in the form of regional reports and other correspondence. If representative from a certain Region do not attend meetings or communicate with ORRT, then the information will be sent to their Regional Rover Coordinator or Regional

Commissioner instead. With the new ORRT policy of moving the meetings around the province, ORRT is trying to coordinate car pools where possible. *Rovering Magazine* is the best source of information on Rovers, though it is a private publication put out by the 9th Kitchener Rover Crew. A new source that we are trying to develop is *Provincial Notes*. An entire page in *Provincial Notes* will be set aside for Rover information, and arrangements are being made for it to be sent to all ORRT representatives. Send submissions for this page to Ian Reilly or to the address mentioned in *Provincial Notes* for submissions. ORRT is using *Provincial Notes* in this way as it is the only form of communication approved for provincial committees.

Constitution (Ian Reilly)

The current ORRT executive was appointed. The entire constitution was suspended, and ORRT is currently functioning under Provincial Council's constitution. Two submissions were made for a new ORRT constitution: one by the National Capital Region in cooperation with several other regions, and one by Ron Ross, an advisor from the Green Valleys Region. The ORRT executive will combine these two documents and send them out to the representatives as a starting point for future constitutional development. Next meeting, we will be working on a critical path for ORRT to follow for the next three years. Any submissions for this critical path should be made to Ian Reilly. Some ideas include long-term fundraising for our own mailings, long-term budgeting for rotating meetings/activity weekends, an annual Rover conference, and an annual awards banquet to coincide with the annual general meeting in May. ORRT is open to all the Rovers in Ontario, so come and be heard (or let us come to you for a weekend!). All work for ORRT consideration should be submitted in written form. Russ Kelk mentioned that ORRT's funding is being cut back, so it makes it difficult to operate sometimes. Ian Reilly added that it is due to these new budget constraints that, for now, only one copy of all ORRT mailings is being sent to each Region. The next set of ORRT elections will take place in May 1995. A nominations committee chair is needed to solicit and accept nominations for ORRT executive positions. The chair would then send a copy of the nominations to the ORRT advisor, and would check the nominations along with the rest of the committee. The nominations committee should have at least four members. The chair does not need to be a representative, but should not be intending to run for a position. The other committee members can run for positions. The executive positions will be set out at the November meeting. The only requirements are that a candidate is a Canadian citizen and an Ontario Rover. Bill Banfield and Karen Madill were nominated for the position of nominations committee chair. Bill Banfield won by a show of hands, with one abstention. Karen Madill, Robert Shlemkevich, and Jeremy Dowdell also volunteered to be part of the nominations committee.

Awards (Ian Reilly)

There is not much information available on Rover awards. Criteria should be available at the November meeting. The currently existing awards are the Roland S. Dell Memorial Award, the Blood Donor Challenge, the Questor

Awards, and the Roger Awards (which are done by *Rovering Magazine*). A new idea to replace the Blood Donor Challenge is an award for service work on the Trans-Canada Trail, the B. P. Trail, or other similar provincial or regional trails. They are currently looking for donations towards these trails, but maybe some arrangement could be made to perform service work instead. It would increase Rover visibility, provide an outlet for service work, and add an outdoor component to the award. There is also the Adopt-a-Highway initiative from the provincial government as another alternative for the Blood Donor Challenge. There must be some means developed for measuring service so that a winner can be established. Cleaning up highways has a higher visibility, but it is not as outdoorsy. As for a learning component, perhaps the Crew could do some research on the trail and create a write-up. Another possible learning component would be the weeding out of non-native plants, such as Purple Loosestrife. With Adopt-a-Highway, one question is whether there is enough challenge in following a pre-determined program, whatever the recognition it provides on major roadways. Representatives should bring these ideas back to their regions for comments for the next meeting. There is also the question of National Rover Awards. Two previously dormant National Rover awards were found at National Headquarters, and a further two have been found at the Ontario Provincial Headquarters. Ian Reilly will investigate the origins of these awards. Perhaps this is a step toward a National Rover RoundTable.

Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot (Karen Madill)

The moot was a success—everybody enjoyed themselves! There were 226 people at the moot, not including VIPs, day visitors, and staff members who did not officially register. The moot elicited a good response from the Provincial Council. Another moot is already being considered, either here or in Nova Scotia. The moot was a big step forward for Rovers, and all participants should be thanked for their contributions. Ian Reilly added that there was a lot of media exposure for Rovers. Sixty Rovers in full uniform went into Toronto for a broadcast of *Lunch Television* at *City Television*. *City TV* and other stations interviewed participants too. As well, the *Canadian National Exhibition* did some public service announcements specifically for Rovers as a thank you for Rover service work. Other service projects (all done on Friday, September 2), included helping out at the *Daily Bread Food Bank* and 15 more projects on-site. There were also pre-moot service projects done on-site to prepare for the moot. Most on-site service projects were not completed due to lack of time and materials. Crews are welcome to complete any unfinished service project at Woodland Trails—simply contact the camp ranger in advance to arrange it.

Australian National Moot/Swedish World Moot (Ian Reilly)

A list was circulated for possible participants in either moot to sign up for further information. There are other international moots going on as well, such as one in England next August.

Provincial Mailing List (Ian Reilly)

An attempt was made with the Provincial Moot to put

together a provincial mailing list. They ended up using the ORRT mailing list, which has some entries on it that are two years old. Regional representatives should submit a written list of all registered Rovers in their Region at the next meeting, including the Crew names. This information should (ideally) be available at your Regional Headquarters. Albert Fuchigami has also put together an electronic mail address list for Rovers. These are simply steps ORRT must take to make sure everybody feels welcome at ORRT meetings. With the problems involving Scoutworks, perhaps some enterprising Rover should try and develop a Roverworks program to be distributed on the Shareware principle.

Skydome Beaver Campout

Rovers interested in running an activity for 40 Beavers at a time should be at Skydome by 12pm on Saturday, November 26. They should be finished by just after 4pm. A crest will be given to all participants. Assistance is also being requested for an ORRT/Provincial Moot display, and maybe for security. If you or your crew are interested, contact either Ian Reilly, Russ Kelk, or Lil Fulford, the event organizer (705-423-3716). The Provincial Development Team is also looking for Rovers who were Beavers to comment on the current Beaver program.

Discovery of the Future

It has been a long process. It all started for ORRT with the May meeting in Niagara, where half the meeting was spent discussing the document in groups or as a whole. *Discovery of the Future* was then sent out in June to all known Rover Crews in Ontario. Later that month, some executive members and other Rovers met with John Peach for an evening to get his view on the document he helped create. ORRT then called a special emergency meeting in Niagara Falls in July to deal with the document and other issues surrounding the Rover program. Though quorum was not attained, it still proved to be a successful weekend. ORRT then held a Rover forum at the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot* which was a huge success, providing commentary from not only Rovers from across the province, but also from around the country and from several international participants. Now, at this meeting, it is ORRT's job to approve recommendations regarding *Discovery of the Future* and the whole Rover program for submission to the Provincial and National Councils. The ORRT executive will then meet with the Provincial Key-3 to put our recommendations forward, and to make them accountable for Provincial Council's actions at the upcoming National meetings in November. Do Rovers have an image problem? Paul Tripp said that he found some Scout leaders and Scouts themselves didn't know what Rovers are. Ian Reilly noted that the profile of Rovering varies from Region to Region, and from District to District. Leaders should let their members know about the different sections. It was also pointed out that often trainers either don't know about Rovers or don't teach about Rovers at training sessions. Also Rovers should wear their Rover uniform as a section leader, as it is important that Rovers show off the fact that they are Rovers, both in terms of internal and external promotion. Russ Kelk noted that some Districts or Regions will not let a Rover wear the Rover uniform while working

outside of the Rover section. In that case, a Rover should still stress being a Rover. Also, Rovers should wear the proper uniform, including only the proper badges, epaulets, etc. as stated in BP&P. Ian Reilly related the incident from the Rover Forum at the Provincial Moot where only four Rovers out of one hundred were found to be wearing a strictly Rover uniform. Finally, Rovers should wear the uniform in public to increase visibility. A Rover should be proud of the uniform. A suggestion was made that perhaps Rover memorabilia should be made available for self-promotion. Bumper stickers, badges, T-shirts, jackets, ball caps, and woggles were suggested as possible items. Ian Reilly was looking into making up a static car decal from an old Rover bumper sticker for distribution to all Rovers whose addresses are submitted by their Regional Representatives. The recommendations for approval in principle by ORRT are as follows: There should be a National Rover Round Table and a regularly-occurring National Moot. The current age ranges should be kept in place. The awards system should be left open and vague, but with more guidelines (as opposed to rules) set out. A better Rover communications network should be established through the use of district, regional, provincial, and national round tables. National should provide better support material for Rovers, such as a real Rover handbook. Rovers should be better promoted within Scouting, and should be allowed to work within all of Scouting as Rovers. The diverse themes found in Rover crews around Canada should be encouraged. Rovers should be allowed to produce guidelines for the Rover program which will receive the proper support of Scouts-Canada. Rovers should be encouraged to make use of available communications resources, such as *Rovering Magazine* and *Leader Magazine/Provincial Notes*. Better training guidelines should be established for Rover advisors. ORRT will be sending John Peach the video and audio from the Rover Forum at the Provincial Moot as well as the full report for presentation to the National Youth Forum. *Discovery of the Future* is expected to be on the floor at the upcoming National meetings this November in Toronto. We want to show Scouts-Canada that Rovers want to develop the Rover program themselves over the next 12-18 months. There will be lots of possible opposition. It will not come from our Provincial Council, but from some other Rovers and Councils. However, the experience of the *Eh, Canadian Provincial Moot* has shown that Rovers can work through any problems or opposition. The work on this new Rover program must come from the Crew and Regional levels up. Charlene Fisher asked with ORRT intends to make any suggestions on implementation along with these recommendations. Ian Reilly replied that some ideas for implementation will be found in the completed document, but a lot of that will be the work of the next year. *Discovery of the Future* should still be mined for any positive ideas. *Discovery of the Future* will now enter the evaluative and approval stages. The three forums, of which two would need to approve it, are the Commissioners' Forum, the Key-3 Forum, and the Youth Forum. The National Youth Forum has two members per province representing all the youth members in that province, from Beavers to Rovers. Ontario, as it presently stands, will only have one representative at the forum, as Jude Fernandez is now too old to continue, and Provincial Council has not chosen to select a

new representative at this time. As a comparison, the chair of the Quebec Rover Round Table commonly sits as a voting member of their Provincial Council and acts as a youth representative for Quebec at the National Youth Forum. *Discovery of the Future* will probably be submitted to the National Youth Forum and the Commissioners' Forum. Because we do not have access to our only youth delegate (a Venturer), we may not be effectively represented there. However, our document will be representative of the views of four Provincial Round Tables, and perhaps that will carry some weight. If you wish to talk to the Provincial Commissioner, she will be attending the Saturday of *Hallowe'en Moot*, and is willing to discuss Rover issues. Charlene Fisher asked what ORRT specific reaction to *Discovery of the Future* should be. It was decided that ORRT would reject *Discovery of the Future*, though any positives would be taken out of it. This rejection of *Discovery of the Future* would be a reflection of both the divisiveness of a new program section and the new status it gives to Rovers. The recommendations were then re-read into the record as follows:

There should be a National Rover Round Table and a regularly-occurring National Moot.

The current age ranges should be kept in place.

The awards system should be left open and vague, but with more guidelines (as opposed to rules) set out.

A better Rover communications network should be established through the use of district, regional, provincial, and national round tables.

National should provide better support material for Rovers, such as a real Rover handbook.

Rovers should be better promoted within Scouting, and should be allowed to work within all of Scouting as Rovers.

The diverse themes found in Rover crews around Canada should be encouraged. Rovers should be allowed to produce guidelines for the Rover program which will receive the proper support of Scouts-Canada.

Rovers should be encouraged to make use of available communications resources, such as *Rovering Magazine* and *Leader Magazine/Provincial Notes*.

Better training guidelines should be established for Rover advisors.

Discovery of the Future does not have the support of the Rovers of Ontario for the reasons outlined in the document, and while it should be commended as a starting point for discussions about the Rover program, it should be rejected both as a program initiative for Rovers and as a starting point for a new program section. Ian Reilly then stated that the blueprint for Rover renewal is still coming

from the document *A Vision of the Future* as far as time is concerned. That considered, a deadline of November 1995 should be set for the development of a new Rover program. Ian Reilly then went over some point from a letter by Marc St-Pierre, the chair of the QRC\QRRT, to show how his ideas compare with those before ORRT. The recommendations were then voted upon. All ORRT executive and Regional Representatives voted to approve them in principle--a unanimous decision. The document to be made from all of ORRT's discussions surrounding *Discovery of the Future* and a new Rover program and culminating with these recommendations will be around one hundred pages. All Regional Representatives will receive a copy of the recommendations and the cover letter, and the full document will be available at cost.

Other Business

Hallowe'en Moot takes place October 14-16 in Green Valleys Region. Further information is available in *Rovering Magazine*. *RoVent '94* takes place October 21-23 in the National Capital Region. For further information, contact Adam Edmonds at (613) 761-7782.

Of note:

Provincial Council is restructuring other sections' contacts around the round table structure. ORRT should look into changing its name from a round table to a council, and if that involves a change of function.

Next Meeting (Ian Reilly)

The next ORRT weekend will take place probably November 11-13 in either London or Windsor. The following one will probably be in the Quinte Region (either Peterborough or Kingston) in January.

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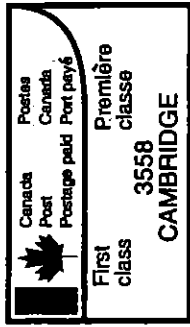
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